THE

ASIATIC JOURNAL

FOR

APRIL 1816.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR,—If it be consistent with the plan of your interesting miscellany, to admit, occasionally, such philological disquisitions as may become generally useful to mankind, I shall be happy to make it the vehicle of my sentiments on two objects of no small importance, *viz.* an universal language and an universal character.

Few of your readers need be told, that such a general medium of intercourse has been as much in contemplation among literary men of enlightened minds, as the long looked-for philosopher's stone was, in the schools of chemistry, when that useful science had not attained the perfection which it certainly has acquired in the present age. However much the value of gold might be depreciated by any modern and cheap method of production on chemical principles, no one can deny that its *utility* as a metal, for those purposes to which it is applied, independent of national coin and currency, must remain, *cæteris paribus*, as great as ever, until some other new compound, with superior qualities should supersede its use, as the material of any vessel, instrument or machine, for domestic or scientific purposes. The intrinsic worth of every thing, after all, must be regulated by external circumstances; since it is almost impossible to fix any other real standard for estimation than positive *utility*, both in the physical and moral world: a test when applicable to mere *learning*, that must at once discover its inferiority to *science*, in the genuine acceptation of that term; and, in this way, little sagacity is required to discriminate between the mechanical faculties of literary character, and the mental prowess of a profound philosopher. The one is too often all memory; the other cannot exist but in a capacious mind: the pride of the former consists more in remembering every lesson taught him from infancy to manhood, than the selection and application of those only, by intense personal thought, which the latter will invariably consider worthy of the time and study they may severally abstract from nobler pursuits. If we contemplate sterling knowledge or useful truth as the centre of a circle, and trace, round this, an ideal circumference of human intellect, with converging *radii* as emblems of every language upon earth, mathematically drawn, they must all terminate in *one point* of rational investigation, or *true science*. Let this be represented by A, and the radius by B,

as a right line —— to C, the circumferential termination; it is evident enough that a single expressive tongue, with adequate alphabetic signs, is as short and complete a path to the Cyclopædia as an hundred concentric lines could possibly present to any scholar. While reason is permitted merely to suggest any hypothesis that does not entirely coincide with revelation, one might be tempted to believe the confusion of speech at Babel, some allegorical account of a transaction which has been lost and obscured in the lapse of ages, amidst the general wreck of nations and tongues. In those remote periods of human existence, it is impossible now to determine the nature or veracity of many occurrences, stated either in profane or sacred history, upon evidence unsupported by faith, as they are too often concealed under metaphorical and mythological veils, perfectly impenetrable to vulgar eyes in modern times. How far an easy or general access to rational education may be palatable to priests or tyrants of any era, since the creation, on the supposition that the rapid progress which reasonable beings would then make in every science, must prove incompatible with good government, is a matter at present of little moment; though it would not be absurd to imagine, that an early reformer, with all his improvements and plans, for establishing an universal language, might, in many ancient states, share the fate of that very tongue, which perished in the attempt of man at Babel, to know more than was decorous in a peaceable subject. Be this as it may, no body will dispute the advantage of abridging several years of juvenile labour, by the adoption of such a system of literary studies, as shall render the English language alone, a safe and short road to every species of useful knowledge, upon fixed principles, calculated to make it ultimately the only medium of speech and thought, in every habitable portion of the globe; without excluding any other collateral branches of classic education, while these shall be found of partial or common utility to mankind, in the search of truth and felicity. I shall close this introductory address with a quotation from the celebrated Horne Tooke.

"It appears evidently, therefore, that Wilkins (to whom Locke was much indebted), was well convinced, that all the accounts hitherto given of language were erroneous. And, in fact, the languages which are commonly used throughout the world, are much more simple and easy, convenient and philosophical than Wilkins' scheme for a *seal character;* or than any other scheme that has been at any other time imagined or proposed for the purpose."

To your readers, who, like myself, have seen and admired Lord Moira's manly eulogium on the comparative excellence of the English, contrasted with ancient and modern tongues, in a late discourse at the college of Calcutta, our own vernacular speech, in judicious hands, must appear the identical language best calculated for universal adoption, in the Roman alphabetical garb, modernized by the character termed *script*, which, by uniting the printed and written symbols as closely as possible, forms a prominent feature in the plan that is to be recommended, chiefly by its facility, simplicity, brevity and utility combined; and on these qualities alone, its ultimate success, in process of time, must entirely depend. In my next you shall have some reasons for the preference now given to the *script character* and *English tongue*, with an account of a proposed Rational Grammar and Dictionary of that Language, by the Rev. James Gilchrist, of Newington Green, on philosophical principles, peculiar to that learned gentleman, and the acute Horne Tooke, who intended the execution, or predicted the existence, of

such a work. Should public favour at last facilitate the accomplishment of such a philological prophecy, I shall certainly hail it as the cheering precursor of my own labours, to consecrate the language of England as the grand vehicle and palladium of religion, morals, science, and rational liberty, through every region of the earth; should this prove on trial, what I fondly hope it will, an organ for that purpose, both simple in construction, and comprehensive in performance. I remain, Sir,

Your very obedient servant,

B.

London, 17th March, 1816.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

Sir,—As it is my design to draw into the compass of these letters, every thing that I can find hitherto offered, either as matter of fact, or of opinion, in relation to the religion of Buddha, I shall commence, on this occasion, the performance of this part of my plan. My hope is, that by analyzingthe several pro ductions of former writers, each may be made to throw some light upon the other; that many discordant statements may be reconciled, and many truths elicited.

Mr. Joinville, whose paper, on the Religion and Manners of the People of Ceylon, was communicated to the Society for Asiatic Researches, at Calcutta, in the year 1801, was among the first to convey any information concerning the religion of Buddha. That gentleman's labours are exceedingly curious and scientific; but, wishing to confine my views, in the first place, to the more practical part of the question, namely the character of Buddhism, as a system of piety and morals, I shall indulge myself, before considering the paper of Mr. Joinville, with a few extracts from that of Captain Mahony, on Singhala, or Ceylon, printed, like the former, in the seventh volume of the Asiatic Researches.

"The religion of Booddha," says Captain Mahony, "as far as I have had any insight into it, seems to be founded in a mild and simple morality. Booddha has taken for his principles, wisdom, justice, and benevolence,* from which principles emanate ten commandments,† held by his followers as the true and only rule of their conduct. He places them under three heads; thought, word, and deed;‡ and it may be said, that the spirit of them is becoming, and well suited to him whose mild nature was first shocked at the sacrifice of cattle. These commandments comprize what is understood by the moral law, which has been generally preached by all the Booddhas in different countries; but chiefly by the last, or Gautemeh Booddha, in the empire of Raja Gaha Noowereh. They are contained in a code of laws written in the Palee language, called Dik Sangee Yeh.

"The Booddhists have prayers adapted to circumstances, which are used privately in houses, and publicly in the face of the congregation. They were first recorded by the King Watteh Gemmoonoo Abeyenajeh, as regularly handed down from Booddha, in whose days the art of writing was unknown. Their devotions are addressed to Booddha, and his Rahatoons (apostles), with a religious respect for his code of laws, and the relics both of him and the Rahatoons. The respect shown to relics is in memory of the characters to whom they belonged, without ascribing to them any spiritual virtue. Four days in the month are dedicated to public worship; the four first days

"* Singhalese-booddha, derma, sangeh."

† See above, page 224.

"‡ Singhalese:—kitte neama, keeye neema, kerre neema.

"Palee:—manneshet, waak, kayeh."

of the changes of the moon, when those who are able attend at the temple. There are no other public days of festival or thanksgiving: all are, however, at liberty to select such day for themselves, and this they particularize by acts of devotion, consisting in fasting, prayer, and forming resolutions for their future good conduct; all which devout acts are addressed to their *Saviour* Booddha, &c.

"It is customary for the pious, who attend the temples more regularly, to make offerings at the altar. Before the hour of eleven in the forenoon, dressed victuals may be introduced, but not after that hour; flowers only can then be presented. The victuals are generally eaten by the priests, or their attendants, and form a principal part of their resources.

"There is one character in the church superior to all, which is distinguished by name, and the duties of his office: he is styled Dammah Candeh Maha Nayekeh."

A high, and, in some respects, fanciful morality, is imposed, as usual, upon the priests. "Various are the modes," says Captain Mahony, "by which they incur guilt. Among such, the killing even a fly; connexion, or a wish for such, with women; any use of strong liquor; theft of the most harmless kind, or a lie, are to be noted. They can eat once or twice a day, according to the promise made of ordaining; it is necessary, however, that their meals should be between sun-rise and eleven o'clock: after that hour, no priest can eat, but may drink*. The priests of Booddha live upon charity; and, by their law, are allowed to eat of every species of food offered to them in that way. Were a priest, however, to enter a house, and a fowl to be killed purposely for him, then he would be culpable; for the law of Booddha forbids the killing of any animal.

"A priest," says Captain Mahony, "is bound to celibacy; but when any one wishes to continue no longer in orders, he has it at his option to resign, at a meeting of the priests of his district, which takes place monthly, either at the new or full moon; sometimes at both. Quitting orders in this manner is not deemed a disgrace; but to be dismissed for improper conduct, is looked upon as the greatest of all ignominy."

"For the ordination of a priest, [in Candy] a council is assembled, consisting of the high-priest, with thirty others, of learning, and the two ministers of state. The person intended for orders, being previously examined, and deemed, in every respect, fit to fill the character of priest, is introduced into this assembly, and then asked, if willing to conform to the different duties required of him, and whether he desires ardently to enter into holy orders. On answering these questions in the affirmative, he is stripped of the clothes he wore at entering, and receives, from the hands of two priests, the robes belonging to his new character. He is before this vested with inferior rank and powers, which can be granted by the generality of temples; but before this council only can he be made a priest, or *terrunasseh*. He must be perfect in all his limbs, and not under twenty years of age; in addition to which, good conduct and learning are the only requisites for priesthood."

About the time of the Dutch conquest of Ceylon, which, as we are informed by Captain Mahony, was favourable to the religious liberties of the country, so long oppressed by Portuguese barbarians, and allowed the priests of Booddha to regain some degree of light, in which they were assisted by learned men sent from Siam; about this time, the high priest (Maha Nayekeh) was a person of extensive

* This is the reason why no offering of dressed victuals can be made after eleven o'clock, *a. m.*!

learning and great piety. In the former, he exceeded the very men sent from Siam to instruct him. His superior talents gained him the title of Sri Hnamkeh Sanga Raja, which was granted to him by the king of Siam and his high-priest conjointly, and confirmed by the king of Candy. "Since the death of Sanga Raja, adds our author, there has been no person of his rank; none having been found of sufficient learning."

"The king," says Captain Mahony, "is in general obliged to consult with the high-priest on all matters of moment. His advice is frequently taken, and secrets communicated to him, when the ministers are neither consulted nor trusted."—Does Captain M. intend to say, that the high-priest of Booddha enjoyed this consideration at the court of the Malabar or Hindu princes, who, for three centuries, have ruled in Candy?

"A species of confirmation is enjoined by the law of Booddha, termed Sarana Sieleh. The ceremony is short and simple. It includes nothing more than a confession of, and a formal introduction into the faith; which is concluded by a blessing from the priest, expressing his wishes that Booddha, his Rahatoons, and doctrine, may be the means of everlasting happiness to the persons imitated."

"The Booddhists of Ceylon never eat beef; but the prohibition, if such may be deemed the cause, pertains not to their religion. A certain king of Ceylon, at a remote period, is said to have issued a mandate to that effect, in consequence of the unusual expenditure of butter he had occasion for, to celebrate a festival of thanksgiving to Booddha: the allowing a cow to be killed, was, by that order, death to the owner, though he had no share in the act. Such, the Singhalais say, was the earliest cause of the above custom; which, however, is ascribed by many to their gratitude towards the animal. Be this as it may, they certainly refrain from the use of such food, as strictly as the Hindoos; with this difference in their prejudices, that they have no objection to seeing or touching the flesh of a cow; nor do they object to the use we make of it".

"The Singhalais speak no further of what is understood by us under the term of Paradise, than that there is a place reserved for the blessed, free from all sin, full of all joy, glory and contentment. But Nirgowané, otherwise called Mooktzé, signifying a Hall of Glory*, where the deceased Booddhas are supposed to be, is, according to the testimony of Gautemeh Bhooddha, situated above the twenty-sixth heaven, Neweh Sanja Jatténé, the seat of the most perfect and supreme bliss. Hell, on the contrary, is supposed to be beneath the lowest extremity of the earth, with waters again beneath it, where the most dreadful tempests rage without intermission.

"The hells," says M. Joinville, from a due acquaintance with his subject, "are *places of transmigration* for the souls of those who have deserved punishment; and they transmigrate into different persons, according to the weight of their offences. Wherever one may be in transmigrating, he is liable to be a devil, which is certainly a punishment; for although there is power, there is also misery attached to the state of a devil. The *Pretios*† devils, for instance, which are the most numerous, are wretched beings, who, though continually hungry, have not any thing to eat; and, being always about us, are but too happy if we afford them food by spitting or blowing our noses. They are the only devils who do us no harm. All the others find a pleasure in rendering us unhappy, by causing our illnesses. This has led to the use of *bales*, which are,

* Vinhalla, the drinking or banqueting hall of the Odin (Buddha) of the Scandinavians?

† Written *Prietta*, above, page 225.

however, prohibited by Boudhou; we shall speak of them hereafter. Isvara and Vaissevene, two powerful gods, keep all the devils, subordinate to them, in as much order as possible; but they are not always in time to prevent the effects of their malice."*

Mythologus.

* Asiatic Researches, vol. vii. p. 416.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

Sir,—A writer in the last number of the Quarterly Review, taking notice, under the article of Elphinstone's Caubul, of Mr. Moorcroft's journey over the Himmaleh mountains, finds occasion to state, that Mr. M. obtained a specimen of the shawl-wool goat, as also of the Yak or Tartarian cow; but, that as the writer, he believes Mr. M. lost them when thrown into prison. The writer, in the preceding sentence, had observed, that both of these animals, but the goat especially, seemed, from the temperature of the climate, as well as from their habits, to be exactly suited for the Highlands of Scotland, or the Hebrides; but that the heats of the south of India, through which they must pass, or the inconveniencies of a long voyage, have hitherto rendered every attempt to import them ineffectual. —Permit me, Sir, to correct all these several mistakes, by informing you, that as I am authentically assured, Mr. Moorcroft brought some individuals of the shawl-wool goat, to England, where they are now living on the East India Company's farm.

The facts presently afterward adverted to by the Reviewer, concerning the resort of Russian traders to the market of Turkistan, are certainly of the first political interest. "Mr. Moorcroft," he observes, "was not a little surprized to find that Russian traders were in the habit of frequenting the markets of Turkistan, and particularly that of Bokhara, to receive in exchange for their fans and clothes, silks, shawls, and other Indian commodities. Even English broad-cloths, notwithstaing the prohibition of the Russian government, are, we believe, carried along Siberia and the deserts, to clothe the Turkomans, *between whom and our Indian provinces* there is but a single ridge of mountains."

I am not sure whether the following exquisite commentary is to be ascribed primarily to the Reviewer, or to his author; be this as it may, I cannot help calling your attention, and that of your readers, to the question of its accuracy:—"The King of Caubul's title is Shauhee Doorree Dooraun; his court is called *Derree Khauneh*, which signifies the *gate*; implying, in the spirit of oriental adulation, that a subject ought to intrude no farther into the palace, even in his thoughts." Now, Mr. Editor, either your humble correspondent, or the writer in the Quarterly Review, must be very much exposed by a final decision upon the merits of the foregoing pieces of real or pretended information. In the first place, notwithstanding all the barbarous orthography of the author (which orthography however, I rejoice to find, the present critic follows your own in condemning) it is not pretty clear that *Derree Khauneh* is to be *translated* the *Khan's Gate*? Is not the King, Khan, or Sultan's Gate, the usual periphrasis for the royal palace, in all eastern countries? Is not the Sublime *Gate* or *Porte* the name of which we distinguish the *court* of Constantinople? Did not Mordecai the Jew "sit at the King's Gate? Does the European term of *court* do more than suffer the subject to pass the *gate* and enter the court or quadrangle of our ancient royal residences? And, when we reflect that this relaxa-

tion is the natural effect of the absence of the extreme eastern privacy, where is the provocation to the notable story about "oriental adulation?" Where is the mighty difference (though a difference there certainly is) between the king's *gate* and the king's *court?* Levee-chambers and drawing-rooms imply, it must be confessed, a considerable increase of familiarity with the sovereign.

"In the whole of this large volume," says the Quarterly Review, still speaking of Mr. Elphinstone's work, "we cannot trace a single vestige of antiquarian research; nor, which is much more to be regretted, any single department of physical science, not even zoology, botany, or mineralogy." To trace "a vestige" of pure English, as well as plain sense, in this sentence, we must suppose the critic to mean, in the latter part of his complaint, "that he cannot trace a vestige either of antiquarian or physical research:" now, though Mr. Elphinstone's book has no pretensions to the name of a work of science, nor even of antiquities; still, when I recollect the eagerness with which that gentleman and his associates appear to have looked for the footsteps of Alexander; when I refer to the drawing and description of the Greek architectural ruin; and I turn over several extensive chapters written on the climate and natural history of Afghanistan, I confess myself unable to comprehend the meaning affixed by the Reviewer to the term of "vestige."

While I am thus peeping into the twenty-seventh number of the Quarterly Review, permit me to add a remark or two on some passages of its first article, entitled "Ceylon." The Reviewer takes for his text the titles of the books of Captain Perceval and the Rev. James Cordiner, and the "Narrative," lately reviewed in your pages. The two first are presently disposed of as transcripts of former writers, and the "Narrative," "by a Gentleman on the spot," is pronounced to be a "paltry composition from the London Gazette and the daily papers." From this latter part of the sentence I dissent; nor can I avoid regarding it as evidence, either that the Reviewer never read the book, or that he read it with little of the spirit of discernment. "Paltry" it may be; but surely it contains sufficient evidence of its having been written at the court of Columbo, and with no small anxiety to praise and to magnify the reigning prince!

As to the war itself, the "Gentleman on the spot" is not more warmly its apologist than the writer in the Quarterly Review; neither can I well understand nor excuse, that the Reviewer, while appropriating to himself, by wholesale transcription, &c. much of the "Gentleman's" language, and very many of his statements (one of them, certainly, derived from the London Gazette, nor from the daily papers) has had the conscience to treat his authority in a manner so contemptuous! "With such a monster of depravity, *who could select for his victims helpless females, uncharged with any offence, and infants incapable of crimes, it was quite impossible to establish*, as General Brownrigg observes, *any civilized relations, either of peace or war;* and *humanity*, as well as sound policy, called upon him to accede to the wishes of the chiefs and people of the Candian provinces, that the dominion of them should be vested in the sovereign of the British empire." So it has been said at Columbo; and so it is repeated in the Quarterly Review; and yet, Sir, I remain unconvinced that the sentiments, upon this subject, which have been more than once conveyed in your pages, do not belong to a sounder political morality, and therefore to a school more favourable to the well-being of mankind. I hope that I shall not be suspected of looking with less grief nor indignation than others, on the fe-

rocious reign of Sri Wicreme Rajah; or that I question the right or the duty of an injured foreigner, to extirpate a power with which "no civilized relations of peace or war can be established," and with which contact is unavoidable; but I deny that there is any sound logic in the proposition, that "with one who could select for his victims, &c. it is quite impossible &c.;" and I turn with alarm and suspicion from the acquisition of provinces through the impulse of "humanity," and from wars commenced on any other than the single basis of "sound policy." Surely, we have seen enough of "humanity" in the French wars of the last quarter of a century, all of which, we were told, were for the overthrow of bloody and rapacious tyrants, and the deliverance and blessing of their oppressed subjects!

For myself, I believe, that the war in Candy, and the overthrow of its sovereign, were unavoidable events. Candy, shut up, by foreign conquerors, from all access to the sea, of the salt and fish of which it had the greatest need, owed it to its manhood to attempt to burst these bonds. But "sound policy" forbade the British government not to forbear resisting its efforts. Hence a state of irreconcilable hostility, and hence wars which could only be terminated in the destruction of the one power or the other. Let us leave out, then, "humanity" that delusive, if not hypocritical cry, with which politicians can sanctify the foulest crimes, and all may have been very right in Ceylon.

I could continue these comments on the article in the Quarterly Review: but I conclude by reverting to the literary complaints I have made, and by venturing the obvious and yet not useless remark, that neither that publication, nor its northern rival, are free from a multitude of those slips and absurdities, which, with so high a tone, they expose in, or attribute to their neighbours. I am, &c.

MODESTUS.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR,—I am happy to find that the *Christian Observer* has at least paused upon its project of saying more concerning the supposed enormity at Ceylon, referred to in my former letter, and the great discovery of the Devonshire clergyman, that the Buddhists will be likely to worship the musical clock. This forbearance on the part of the accuser, makes me the less anxious to say any thing further on the behalf of the accused, a task which I might else think it a duty to pursue.

But, cutting short all that might otherwise be said on the subject, I shall cite a precedent from our new acquisition of the Ionian Islands; such as, if the *Christian Observer* shall continue to think the conduct of Governor Brownrigg a subject for the reprehension of government, must supply it with another occasion for invoking a similar exercise of chastisement. My author is Dr. Holland, who, in his Travels in the Ionian Islands, speaking of the situation of the English military in Zante, during its occupation between the year 1812 and 1813, observes, "Their only extra-service was the easy one of bearing a part in the religious processions of the Greek church. Besides the band of the regiment, two files of English soldiers might be generally seen with these processions, each man carrying in his hand a lighted taper, and fulfilling their parts with propriety and decency of manner. The contrast," adds the Doctor, "was striking in such cases, between the open and full countenances of the Englishmen, and the more contracted, darker, and broader visages of the Greek religious functionaries."

CANDIDUS.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

Sir,—I beg leave to transmit to you for insertion in the Asiatic Journal, a few introductory remarks to a proposed English and Mahratta Dictionary, compiled by Captain Gideon Hutchinson, of the Bombay Native Infantry, specimens of which have just been laid before the Honourable Court of Directors, with a view that the laborious and useful efforts of the compiler may meet with their favourable and liberal attention.

I am, Sir,
Your very obedient servant,
Jas. Champ.

39, *Marsham-Street, Westminster,*
13*th March*, 1816.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

To a proposed English and Mahratta Dictionary, compiled by Capt. Gideon Hutchinson, of the Bombay Native Infantry.

As a linguist to a corps of Bombay Native infantry, in the performance of his official duties, the compiler has availed himself of the many opportunities thus offered, to cultivate more particularly the Mahratta language, of which he has compiled a Dictionary, English and Mahratta, as also a very considerable collection of materials for a vocabulary Mahratta and English.

The plan on which the work has been formed, is that of Johnson's smaller Dictionary, which he (Johnson) abstracted from the folio edition ; and, with the exception of words merely technical, and terms of science, to which the Mahratta language affords no accurate equivalents, will be found to be a copious and comprehensive translation of that abridgement.

The insertion of any but Mahratta words, has, but in a very few particular cases, been studiously avoided ; and the real scholar will acquit the compiler of plagiarism, if a word should occasionally be observed in use in the Hindoostanee, not having its derivation in the Persian or Arabic, the sources of that dialect, in conjunction with the different colloquial idioms of India, among which the Mahratta holds a distinguished rank.

The Mahratta language may be divided into two classes ; the *Rooddhhee Bhasha*, or that which is more immediately colloquial, and the *Prakroot*, which has a greater abundance of Sunscrit words, and in which their poems, histories, &c. are composed.

It has been an object to combine the two classes ; as the Prakroot is ever had recourse to, when the conversation turns to other than common topics, and rises to discussions on politics, religion, philosophy, and other subjects of import. The Prakroot is more generally understood by the lower classes than may be generally presumed. The rich and the poor of the Mahrattas are peculiarly attached to the recital of the poems celebrating the achievements of their divinities and heroes. The public reciters are numerous, and experience considerable patronage—ever engaged to chaunt in the temples—to enliven the convivialities of a marriage—to add to the entertainment of public rejoicing, or the solemnities of funeral ceremonies.

On the usefulness of a work which would facilitate the acquirement of the Mahratta dialect, which is colloquially spoken between Delhi and Seringapatam, Bombay and Nagpore, and is the medium of intercourse with not less than four-fifths of the Bombay army, and the numerous native writers in the employ of the government at that Presidency, it is unnecessary to dilate ; if, therefore, it be admitted that a more general knowledge of this language would be greatly conducive to the interests of the army, and adverting to our daily increasing political relations with the Mahratta empire—to the public at large—the utility of a work by which this knowledge is made more accessible cannot be denied.

The Honourable the Court of Directors, by founding the Colleges of Fort William and Hertford, have manifested their persuasion, that an intimate acquaintance with the Eastern languages, on the part of their servants in India, is not only essentially requisite, both to their public and private interests, and the best means of giving to their subjects the surest guarantee of impartial justice, in the decisi-

on of the civil magistrate, and the pecuniary settlements of the revenue collector, uncontaminated by the interested interpretations of the venal native assistants in the Adawlet and Cutcherry.

How far this dictionary was calculated to realize this advantage, the compiler requested respectfully to refer to the judgment of the Honourable the Governor in Council, Sir Evan Nepean.

Instead of a prospectus of the work, accompanied by specimens extracted from the body of it, as the most eligible method of bringing it to the notice of the government, the compiler conceived such specimens would only exhibit a partial view of its general contents, and earnestly solicited an actual inspection of the whole work, following the course of the alphabet, as a mode more suitable for supplying the means of judgment to the government, resting assured, if the copy thus submitted to examination, should have been found intitled to their favourable opinion, such a comprehensive, in preference to a confined, survey of it, would have been more adapted to secure him their patronage and support. Had this desired examination taken place, the compiler could have supported, by the exhibition of examples from Mahratta manuscripts, the sense of any word inserted in his Dictionary.

After having surmounted the arduous, and no common, difficulties which presented themselves during the performance of his work, and unaided as he was by the labours of others in the same line, the compiler has experienced the greatest disappointment, in consequence of the reply received, after his letter to Sir Evan Nepean had been transmitted to the supreme government at Bengal, "that this government (the Bombay) can give no further encouragement than by subscribing to a certain number of copies of the Mahratta Dictionary, which he (the compiler) proposes to publish."

The compiler was anxious that his labours should appear before the public; an undertaking which, unassisted by the government, he was aware it would be in vain for him to have attempted: yet in the midst of his exertions and toil, he was buoyed up by the hopes he should have met that patronage, which has of late years been so often, and liberally bestowed on similar pursuits and works, both by the Court of Directors at home, and the governments of India abroad.

Notwithstanding his expectations have not been realized, the compiler is still solicitous to submit his work to the test of examination, either in India or at home; and for the latter purpose has transmitmitted for inspection eight specimens, from the several letters A, B, C, D, I, P, S, and W.

It may be necessary to mention, that it is within the compiler's powers to form his work on a less diffuse plan; and, by rendering it no less useful to the Mahratta student, essentially diminish the expense of publication by condensing its bulk.

In reference to the Mahratta and English vocabulary, it will be irrelevant to say more, than that by its accompanying the English and Mahratta Dictionary, each would materially tend to elucidate the other, and prove of the highest benefit in either translating or speaking the language.

Bombay, 30*th May*, 1815.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

Sir;—In your last number, page 296, you have given some account of recent volcanic eruptions in the Oriental Archipelago. The following notice of the same phænomena is contained in a letter lately received from Java, and dated in August last:—

"Pitch darkness," says the writer, "prevailed for near two days, even over the east end of Java, where the noise of the explosion was compared to the roar of cannon amidst continual peals of thunder. The roofs of the houses at Bangeewanzee fell in from the weight of the ashes, some light particles of which reached Batavia, where we were enveloped in a strong nitrous gas. The effects of the explosion were felt as far as Minto, in the Straits of Banca, and perhaps much further. About the same time, a

tremendous earthquake was felt at Amboyna. The sea, convulsed, alternately rose and fell many feet. Most of the inhabitants of Sumbawa, who are not buried, must be starved, and as the crops in Bali and the east end of Java have been destroyed, they also will suffer considerably. We have had a slight eruption of a mountain called Tomboro, in this neighbourhood. Some of the ashes from Sumbawa which fell at Samarang, are found to be slightly affected by the acids, and take the tarnish from silver more readily than lime, at the same time scratching it; which leads me to suppose that they contain silica, some metal, and other substances."

The same letter exhibits a sketch of the natural history of Java, and particularly of its mineralogy, from which, as connected with the present subject, another extract may not be unacceptable:—

"It is unnecessary to tell you," says the writer to his friend in Europe, "that as a volcanic country this is wonderfully fertile, differing in its aspect from Sicily only in the improved state of its agriculture, while the other has retrograded into a wilderness. From the ancient accounts of that island, it would appear that Ceres has nearly shifted her seat to the antipodes. Why volcanic lands are richer than others, has often been asked, and attempted to be explained. It has been said, that volcanic stones are more readily dissolved, and the earthy matters produced are washed down, and fertilize the soil; but this appears to me unsatisfactory. I have passed over lands which have not been subject to any eruption within the traditions of man; others that have been more or less devastated at different periods, by adjacent volcanoes, yet I never observed in the situations most remote from their influence, any abatement in the general fertility, or, on the contrary, any peculiar luxuriance near the mountains, although these are all volcanoes, either active or exhausted. I am inclined, therefore, to seek for some other cause, which perhaps may be identified with the origin of the volcanoes themselves, an internal heat accelerating the decomposition of matter, and promoting vegetation, the rapidity of which does not impoverish a land, where the principles of the nature are so abundantly and constantly supplied. This, it must be admitted, is no more than conjecture; but it is curious to observe the progress of nature in situations which at different periods have been devastated. Ponderous fragments or masses of stone, thrown out, in a short time are coated with moss, which corrupts and forms vegetable mould; and this, accumulating, the stones become in time small hillocks."

The island of Sumbawa extends near two hundred miles, in the parallel of nine degrees of south latitude. Near the north-east end, on a fine bay, which stretches seven or eight leagues south into the island, is situated the town of Beema, where the Dutch had formerly an establishment, by the permission of the sultaun, who availed himself of their assistance in repelling an attack made upon him by his neighbours of Tombora. The sides of the harbour are bold and lofty, but the approach is perfectly safe, though the passage is sometimes inconvenient, from the strong current which generally prevails, and the great depth of water; as a line of one hundred fathoms will hardly reach the bottom, even close to the shore. This channel is in some places very narrow, yet there is not the least hazard in passing it, though the Dutch charts, evidently from design, represent it as extremely dangerous, and full of shoals and rocks. On the contrary, a ship of the line may sail along either side in perfect security within thirty yards of the cliffs, which give a romantic appearance to the channel, that terminates in a capacious basin, forming one of the finest harbours in the world. On the east side of this bay stands the town of Beema, where the landing is unfavourable, owing to a mud bank, extending near a mile from the town. The produce of this island consists of sapan-wood,

rice, saltpetre, sulphur, birds'-nests, and wax; but the principal part of its trade is in horses, which are very fine, though small. The most esteemed of these are procured from the small island of Gonong Api, lying at the north-east end of the harbour of Beema, about four miles from Sumbawa Point, and forming the west side of the north entrance of Sapy Straits. It is a large volcanic mountain, terminating in two lofty peaks, and the soil is astonishingly fertile. Another volcanic mountain, on the north coast of Sumbawa, is said to be responsive to that of Goonong Api, an explosion of the latter being immediately answered by an eruption from the former. The town of Sumbawa is situated in a large bay, open to the north and north-east, having a good harbour, stretching deep within the land. This place is governed by a chief of its own, who is however subject to the sultaun. The other towns or districts, Dompoo, Tombora, Sungur and Pikat, have also their respective chiefs, thus forming a kind of feudal system.

NAUTICUS.

March 7, 1816.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR,—Will you be good enough to inform your numerous readers, whether or not, in the event of the Bishop of Calcutta's being obliged, from ill health, or any other cause, to quit India, another bishop would be appointed? and, if so, whether the present bishop would retain his designation, as Bishop of Calcutta? or what is to become of his lordship, spiritually and temporally?

CLERICUS.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR,—As a curious specimen of the oriental style, I send you the accompanying translation of two letters from the Nabob of Arcot (who excited some interest in the British Parliament several years back) to their present Majesties.

It is presumed that the originals were never presented to the illustrious personages to whom they were addressed; for the Persian* manuscripts from which the translations have been rendered, were accidentally discovered by a countryman near the sea, soon after the wreck of the General Barker, East Indiaman, on board of which, Sir Thomas Rumbold (mentioned in both letters as the bearer) sailed from India in charge of them. The man kept them in his possession for several years; till they lately caught the attention of a friend of mine, who was so kind as to procure a translation from the elegant pen of a gentleman, justly reckoned the first Persian scholar in this kingdom.

The one addressed to His Majesty was found in an imperfect state; that to the Queen appears to be complete.

I am, Sir, &c. &c.

NADIR.

* Persian is the Court language of India.

To His Majesty George III, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, &c. &c. &c.

AFTER hoping for His Majesty's health and prosperity, &c. &c. the writer most respectfully lets him know, that he has received the letter written to him by His Majesty, under date 23d Dec. A. D. 1778, (brought by a Rear-Admiral, meaning by the true servant of His Majesty) expressing that the honour and advantage of the writer of this, is dear to His Majesty, and that full confidence is to be placed in whatever Sir Edward Hughes shall say to

the writer in His Majesty's name, which has been to him the cause of the greatest satisfaction. The situation of the writer has over and over again been represented to His Majesty; that the writer conceives the difficulties in which he is implicated are such, that if he were again to state them, it would only be giving His Majesty unnecessary pain; and that His Majesty himself in his own wisdom must have well comprehended, that until some remedy is found for them, the degradation of the writer of this will be greater and greater; and this can only proceed from the friendship and protection of His Majesty. Sir Edward Hughes has said, on the part of the writer of this, that I rely perfectly, and shall continue to rely on the friendship and protection of His Majesty. In my letter of 21st January, 1780, explanatory of my wish for settling an arrangement between us, myself and His Majesty; and I conceive that such an arrangement will not only be the acquisition of security and comfort to myself and my successors, but will greatly strengthen the alliance which now is coming forward between me and the British nation, and will appear in future also. At this present writing, I have given power to His Majesty's subject, Sir Thomas Rumbold, who is now departing for England, for this purpose; and whatever information that gentleman, who is well versed in the affairs of the Devan, * * * * *

To the ornament of the veil of modesty and majesty, the enlightener of the canopy of chastity and magnificence, queen of the kingdoms of Europe, bright star of the constellation of glory and renown, to whom together with glory and prosperity, be health perpetual!

Although a long time has elapsed since I have had the honour of giving that exalted personage an account of my health, whose known celebrity has been the cause of great pleasure and happiness to me; yet it is matter of great grief to me, that from the distance which separates us I feel myself withheld from personally presenting to that exalted personage, the tribute of respect and attachment which the writer and all his family cherish in their hearts for her; and therefore have taken the liberty to send by Sir Thomas Rumbold, a subject of her Majesty, a diamond seal-ring, in token of friendship, and I hope that as it is taken immediately from my own finger, to be forwarded thither, Her Majesty will condescend to wear it upon her's, as a mark of the pure and unchangeable fond wishes I bear towards the English Queen. I intreat the Almighty for the good health of Her Majesty and children, as a cause of happiness to the King, and of glory to the English nation—and may she be happy!

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

Sir,—I feel obliged by the information contained in the communication of the "*Bombay Effective Officer*," in answer to my enquiry respecting the principle of selection of East India officers for the honours of the Bath. I must however confess that it would have been more satisfactory had your correspondent been able to have assured me that those officers who most distinguished themselves were overlooked for better reasons than it seems in his power to give. I had the honour of some acquaintance with the late Earl of Buckinghamshire, while he was at the head of affairs at Madras; and am ready to avow that the interests of the army, at that presidency, were by no means forgotten during his administration; but surely, Sir, it is somewhat strange, that the influence of a President of the Board of Controul should be so weak, in the cabinet of which he was a member, that so little justice could be done to his old friends, that only fifteen, out of four thousand officers, were selected for the honour of the second class; and that they should be excluded from the first altogether! I am not disposed to doubt the fact of the noble Earl's strict impartiality; yet some stronger proof must be brought, before I can honestly join your correspondent in this posthumous praise.

I am glad that your correspondent has brought to my recollection the questionable though vague manner in which Mr. Hume, in his speech at the India House in December last, seemed to insinuate* that the Indian Army wanted a stimulus to honourable exertion. For my own part, Sir, I should blush for any body of soldiers who wanted either pensions, titles, or ribbands, to make them do their duty. Long before the Indian Army could anticipate any honorary rewards of this kind, they had gained immortal honour in every part of the peninsula; and, as for looking to pensions as spurs to exertion, I could show you, Sir, a list of hundreds of names who have for many years fought and bled in India again and again, and whose only spur was that of honour. In five cases out of ten, they could have had no anticipation of becoming rich enough to return to their native country, and in fact expected no better fate, than that of dying either in action, or in poverty, in that climate which was the field of their glory.

I am not personally acquainted with Mr. Hume, and would wish it to be understood, that these remarks were made entirely on public grounds; and it is on such grounds that I would challenge any one to say, that in any period of the history of the achievements of the Indian Army, they fought under the impulse of any other "stimulus" than that of honourable and patriotic feeling.

I am, &c.

A Bengal Retired Officer.

* Vide p. 70 of Asiatic Journal.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

Sir,—More than a year since, I observed, from the French advertisements, the appearance of the first number of "Monuments, ancient and modern, of Hindustan, by M. Langlès;" and I thought, that if well conducted, the work might form an elegant supplement, or sequel, to the grand publication of our Messrs. Daniell, entitled "Antiquities, Architecture, and Landscape Scenery of Hindustan." In consequence, I some time afterward ordered a few of the numbers; and had just cause, Sir, to feel some little surprize, when I found that this work, as to the graphical part of it, that is, much the most costly portion, is likely to prove, in substance, little else than a re-print, if I may apply that term to engraving, of the work of Messrs. Daniell, on a scale of about one third larger than their beautiful aquatinta, reduced from their original atlas edition, and now in the course of publication!

Forming my conclusion from the plates of the first few numbers, and a sentence or two in the Introduction, I have no manner of doubt, that of the one hundred and fifty promised plates, nearly as many as three-fourths will be engraved directly from the English work. In the Introduction M. Langlès promises twenty-four engravings of the antiquities of Ellora; the precise number occupied with those antiquities in the English work. One sixth part of Messrs. Daniell's is a series of romantic views, chiefly mountainous. In this part, at least, thought I, M. Langlès will be thrown on other resources for his drawings; since his title imports an exclusive attention to "monuments." No! in reading the Introduction, I found, that here, too, he is to appropriate, without ceremony, the English work. See with what artifice, not to say affectation, he contrives a propriety in taking into his plan what would seem so foreign to it. " —— the heart withered and the mind rendered melancholy, by the lamentable scenes which, of late years, have so signalized the annihilation of the Mahommedan

power, and the successive destruction of the Rajahs, or Hindoo princes; the eye fatigued by the diversity and multiplicity of objects which we shall have alternately examined with attention, or rapidly passed over, we shall need repose; and we shall find it amid the majestic mountains of the Ghauts and of Sirinagur. Some views of that truly romantic country will not be displaced in our work, and will pleasingly conclude it. Mountains are monuments, raised by nature, to transmit from age to age, the history of the grand revolutions of the globe. These monuments have their architecture, and even their sculptures, which are more imposing, though they will occupy us less, than those of the Hindoos, Mussulmans, and Europeans, to which this work is especially devoted."

It is among these same mountains of Sirinagur that some of the finest views of Messrs. Daniell are taken; and I have not the least doubt, that M. Langlès means to avail himself of, at least, the greater part of their work.

Now, Sir, if the learned Frenchman had plainly and honestly avowed, that for the benefit of the literature, taste, and arts of his country, he was going to publish a set of plates, engraved, for the most part, after the splendid series of Messrs. Daniell, but accompanied by elaborate commentaries and elucidations of his own, all would have been perfectly fair; but neither in advertisements, nor in his full introductory statement of his plan, is there one word of acknowledgement. He speaks of the drawings prepared for his work much in the same complacent manner that he might, if they were originals, for which the public would be indebted to him and his artist. It is true he puts "*Daniell delineavit*," at the bottom of the plates, but he gives no information about this "Daniel" and his work. The name is introduced just once in the Introduction; and I must quote the sentence, to shew you in what manner:—"This plan, as it must be seen, is very different from that of Messrs. Gough, Crawford, Holmes, Hodges, Colebrooke, Pennant, Maurice and Daniell; who, as well as ourselves, are employed upon antiquities and monuments of Hindu architecture and sculpture."

This is the ingenious way in which he alludes to a work to which his own is to owe much the greater part of its attraction; and it seems a portion of the work so constituted is going (without any preliminary hint that it is otherwise than entirely original) to appear in English, for the use of those who have already Messrs. Daniell's work in their hands.

Sir, I am truly sorry that I have not been able to convey in fewer words, both the information which I feel assured you will judge to be due to such persons, would, without it, become purchasers of this plagiary, and the accompanying animadversion, which seems due to literary honour.

The letter-press, according to the prospective notices on the covers of the numbers, will be, at least, extensive enough to form a very thick volume. The typography is most beautiful. The size of the common paper copies is colombier quarto, within a trifle of the size of our demy folio. As to the quality of what will strictly belong to M. Langlès, there can be no doubt that so distinguished an orientalist will produce a work highly interesting and valuable in its kind. A national feeling of indulgence toward Hindu paganism may be anticipated, if we are to judge from the following sentence in the Introduction: "How can we fail to be penetrated with a feeling truly religious, in contemplating these pagodas; in surveying the schools, once the rendezvous of the sages of the East; and in beholding the majestic and holy stream, the object of religious reverence to one of the most ancient

and most wondrous nations of Asia ?"

The plates are generally of the dimensions of about nine inches by six, engraved in the line manner, by various artists, some of them of well known name. The execution may be pronounced respectable, in some instances elegant ; but, on the whole, so far as I have yet seen, it is, in my opinion, by no means equal, nor within many degrees of being equal, to that of our own artists in similar departments. The cost of the work, by the time it is finished, cannot be far short of thirty pounds. Z. Z.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

Sir,—The account given in your second number of the success of the viceroy of Egypt against the Wahabee Arabs, and of the importance, in a commercial point of view, of the subjugation of those religious robbers, will, probably, render acceptable to your readers, the following account of them, which I extract from Sir John Malcolm's history of Persia. This account also, will serve for a refutation to the conjecture of a modern writer, who supposes the Wahabees of Arabia to be the same with the Druses, a sect established in Mount Lebanon, in Syria, and which had its rise in the eleventh century.

R. F.

The modern sect of Wâhâbees was founded near a century ago, by an Arab of the name of Shaikh Mahomed, the son of Abdool Wâhâb, whose name they have taken. Shaikh Mahomed connected himself in the attempt to reform the religion of his country with Ebn-Saoud, the Prince of Dereah, the capital of the province of Nujuddee. Through the efforts of the saint, and the aid of the temporal power of Ebn-Saoud, and his son and successor Abdool Azeez, the religion of the Wâhâbees is now established all over the peninsula of Arabia. The tenets of this sect are peculiar, and merit notice. They profess that there is one God, and Mahomed is his prophet: but as the Supreme Being neither has nor can have any participator in his power, they say, that to profess that either Mahomed, the Imaums, or any saints, can have any superintendance over the affairs of men, or render them any aid hereafter, is blasphemy. They deem Mahomedans who deviate in any way from the plain, literal meaning of the Koran, infidels ; and maintain, that to make war upon all such is the imperious duty of every Wâhâbee. It is one of their tenets, that all titles meant to show respect and honour to men are odious to God, who alone is worthy of high name : and they assert, that in conformity to what is revealed in the Koran, true Mahomedans should wage continual war against unbelievers, till they are converted, or agree to pay the tribute imposed on infidels ; and that in the latter case they should be compelled to wear the coarsest garments, not to be allowed to ride on horses, nor to live in splendid dwellings. They maintain, that the taxes (including zukaat and khums) levied by Mahomed, are alone lawful : that swearing by Mahomed or Ali, or any person, should be prohibited, since an oath is calling a witness to our secret thoughts, which no one can know but God. They deem it a species of idolatry to erect magnificent tombs ; but to kiss relics, &c. is idolatry itself ; and therefore, they affirm, that it is an action acceptable to God to destroy the tombs of Mahomedan saints in Arabia and Persia, and to appropriate their rich ornaments to worldly purposes, for which they were designed. They say, that it is wicked to mourn for the dead ; for, if they were good Mahomedans, their souls are in paradise, at which their friends should rejoice. The Wâhâbees reject the whole of the Traditions, limiting their belief to the Koran, which was, they say, sent from heaven to Mahomed, who was an excellent man, and much beloved of God. They continue to preserve the usages of circumcision, ablution, &c. which they found established ; but consider them more as matters of practice and usage than of faith. The leading principle of this sect is their right to destroy and plunder all who differ from them : and those Mahomedans who do not adopt their creed are represented as far less entitled to mercy than either Jews or Christians. Their progress was so great about ten years ago, as to excite considerable alarm in the Turkish government. Among other places, they plundered the rich tombs of Aly and his sons at Nujuff and Kerbelah. Their inroads are always dreadful ; for they spare none who do not conform to their opinions ; but they have lately met with some severe checks, and appear to be declining.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

Sir,—In my late letter, I hinted my surprize, that while so much is said and appears to be thought, of strengthening our Indian empire, by means of the sword, so little is expected from the arts of peace, and from internal sources of defence; so little from the fidelity of our Indian subjects, from their improved condition under the British sway, and from their sense of the blessings they derive from our dominion, and the loss they would sustain in its overthrow.

I do hope and believe that these true bases of political stability are not wholly wanting; and, if they exist, I further hope that they are not under-valued, in any estimate we may make of our capacity to withstand the foreign enemy. If they exist, and if they are properly appreciated, they may go far to divert us from schemes of aggression, which, though sometimes necessary, always imply weakness; which too often lead us into the vulgar career of conquest and rapacity; which divert statesmen from their real glory, that of the cultivation of peace; and which not unfrequently end in disgrace and ruin.

I have read with great satisfaction, and I hope upon good authority, that real domestic improvements have been introduced into India; that the condition of the common people has been ameliorated; and that the latter are not insensible to the consequent difference of their situation from that of the subjects of the neighbouring states. It is said, that beside the plan of Sir John Shore, pursued and extended by Marquess Wellesley, many reforms were made, and new regulations introduced by Marquess Cornwallis, for the protection of civil rights against individual violence and injustice; and that these views have been so far perfected as to render the existing administration of equal law throughout the Company's dominions a source of the most evident happiness to the people. The natives of India, it is added, begin to repose a firm confidence in the integrity and pure intentions of their rulers, and to entertain a warm attachment to that system of government with whose frame the most laborious provisions for their peace and safety were thus indissolubly interjoined. They remember the grievous afflictions of arbitrary power, to which their fathers were subject; and from which they themselves owe their relief to the events which placed them under British sway;—while the tyranny, oppression, and insecurity which still reign with lawless insolence throughout the neighbouring states, and scourge all classes of their subjects, are distinct admonitions of the destiny which await the inhabitants of our own provinces, were any of the despots of India to succeed in an attempt to overthrow the sovereignty of Great Britain.

Observator.

MINUTE OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Fort William, June 1, 1805.—Upon the first improvement of the grounds at Barrackpore, it was in the contemplation of the governor-general to combine, with the arrangements then adopted at his recommendation, the establishment of an institution calculated to effect the gradual improvement of the agriculture of India, and to ameliorate the general condition of our native subjects in these extensive and populous provinces.

To a cursory observer, the extensive and highly-cultivated plains which are to be seen in every part of Bengal suggest an opinion, that the utmost abundance every

where prevails, and that nothing remains to be accomplished to assist the fertility of the soil, or to augment the comforts of the people. On a more accurate investigation, however, it will be found, that the great mass of the people who are employed in agriculture (and especially the day-labourers) are in a state of comparative indigence.

The poverty of the lower classes of our native subjects must in some measure be ascribed to the improvident policy of the landholders, in generally renting their lands on short leases at the highest rent which can be obtained; and to the long-established practice amongst the Hindoos of every description, of lavishing all the wealth which they can amass in expensive religious ceremonies, at the marriages of their children, and for the maintenance and support of religious mendicants, and other idle retainers. It is, however, an unquestionable fact, that the produce of the soil is infinitely below what it is capable of yielding under proper management, and that the resources and comforts of the people might be much improved, if they were instructed in the best means of converting its natural fertility to the utmost advantage.

Under the present system of Indian agriculture, with the advantage of a soil of uncommon fertility, and of a climate which yields a crop of some description at every season, the industry of a single ploughman, however exerted, is insufficient to enable him to cultivate a greater extent of land within the year than seven acres; and the expense of separating the rice from the husk for culinary purposes, after the grain is reaped, cannot be estimated at a sum inferior to one-fifth part of the value of the grain; whilst a similar operation can be performed in England, and in other European countries, at an expense not exceeding one-fortieth part of the value of the crop.

Similar defects pervade every branch of Indian agriculture; and in no instances are their injurious consequences more manifestly exemplified, than in the general state of the cattle employed in the labours of the field within these provinces. A breed of strong and powerful black cattle is to be found in very few situations producing good pasture throughout the year; but the weak and inefficient condition of the cattle generally employed for agricultural and other purposes, as well in Bengal as in the upper provinces, cannot have escaped the notice of the most inattentive observer.

The advantages which would accrue from an improvement of the breed of cattle are great and important; but this desirable object can only be accomplished by the introduction of a more perfect system of husbandry, where the skilful application of art shall be employed to provide suitable nourishment for the cattle, at those seasons when the pasturage is almost universally destroyed by the parching heat of the sun.

The permanent settlement of the revenues in the lower provinces, by ensuring to the landholder the enjoyment of all the advantages which may arise from the improvement of his property, has contributed essentially to the encouragement of agriculture: under the present defective system of husbandry, however, the large proportion which the rent payable to the state bears to the value of the produce of the soil, operates in a certain degree as a check to the employment of the capital of the landholder in the improvement of his property; and this obstacle is only to be removed by the introduction of a system, calculated at the same time to augment the produce of the land, and to diminish the expense of preparing the grain for consumption.

In the opinion of intelligent European gentlemen conversant with the subject, the profits of the landholder might be augmented in a considerable proportion by the introduction of many simple improvements in the implements of agriculture, and in machinery, now in general use throughout Europe: by these means, the property of a large proportion of our native subjects would be increased and gradually the comforts of affluence would be more generally diffused through the mass of the people.

Independently of the moral duty imposed on the British government to provide, by every means in its power, for the improvement of the condition of its subjects, substantial advantages must necessarily be derived by the state from the increased wealth and prosperity of the people. The consumption of all articles of comfort and of luxury would increase with augmented wealth, and the government would be enriched by the additional

produce of the taxes on those articles, without imposing any burden on the people.

Adverting to the genius and habits of the natives of India, it cannot be expected that any attempts will ever be made by them to improve the system of agriculture practised for ages by their ancestors, unless the example shall be given to them by the government, and unless the personal advantages to be derived from such improvements, as shall be found to succeed in practice, shall be clearly manifested to them.

Under these considerations, the governor-general is satisfied, that the establishment of an experimental farm, under proper regulations, in Bengal, would be an object of great public utility; and he is persuaded that the expense of such an institution would not prove considerable. The object of the establishment ought to be, as already stated, the improvement of the breed of black cattle; the introduction of a better system of agriculture than the system now in general use in these territories; and the reduction of the expense of preparing the grain for consumption, by the use of machinery, or by other means.

The quantity of land required for the proposed farm would not exceed three hundred acres, or nine hundred *begas*, and the establishment could not be founded in any situation so desirable, on many considerations, as at Barrackpore; and at that place manure might be obtained at little expense, and the greater part of the grounds at Barrackpore might be employed as pasture ground for the cattle.

The business of the farm would there be conducted under the occasional inspection of the governor-general, whose influence might be employed with great advantage to explain the benefits of the plan to the natives of rank and property, and to induce them to introduce on their own estates such improvements as might be found to be useful at Barrackpore.

To superintend the proposed farm with advantage, the assistance of an European overseer of experienced knowledge in the practice and theory of agriculture, and of an ingenious European mechanic and civil engineer, would be absolutely and indispensably necessary. These persons ought also to be men of some education, capable of applying the general knowledge they shall have acquired to the circumstances of a country differing so materially from England in soil, in climate, and in its natural productions; and of explaining, in clear and intelligible language, to be translated for the use of the natives, the principles on which their system of management may be founded, and the prospect of ultimate success.

It would likewise become a part of the duty of the superintendent or overseer to correspond on agricultural subjects with intelligent European gentlemen, residing in every part of India, by which means, a knowledge of the practice of agriculture, in its various branches, as established with success in any one province, might be disseminated and tried by actual experiment throughout the British possessions. In this manner the drill husbandry now practised with advantage in the centre of the Deckan might be extended to many parts of Bengal; means might be devised to instruct the inhabitants in the preservation of hay, for the use of the cattle, at the season when little or no herbage is to be found, and many other useful improvements might be introduced.

Amongst these it has been suggested, that the cultivation of the turnip might be introduced with considerable advantage, for the purpose of feeding cattle at that season of the year, when the deficiency of the articles of food for cattle, now in common use, is most severely felt.

When a sufficient number of intelligent and industrious natives shall have been instructed in the approved system of agriculture to be introduced at the experimental farm at Barrackpore, they may be dispersed throughout the country, for the purpose of disseminating a knowledge of its advantages; and other establishments may be formed in the distant provinces, as circumstances shall indicate the propriety of the measure, on principles corresponding with those of the proposed establishment at Barrackpore.

It is not improbable that some intelligent European, capable of conducting the business of an experimental farm on these principles, might be found in India; but it appears to the governor-general to be proper that the establishment of the farm

upon any extended scale should be postponed, until the sanction of the Honourable the Court of Directors to the measure can be obtained, who may possess the means of considering this important subject, in concert with those distinguished personages in England, whose recent labours and example have contributed so largely to augment the agricultural resources of Great Britain. The question is highly deserving of the mature deliberation and attention of the honourable court, nor can any subject be presented to their notice more worthy of engaging the exertion of that spirit of liberal patronage, which the East India Company has always manifested towards every plan of improvement calculated to ameliorate the condition of the natives of those possessions.

For the Asiatic Journal.

STRUCTURE OF THE MOGUL EMPIRE IN INDIA;

INCLUDING EXPLANATIONS OF THE NAMES OF ITS OFFICERS.

(*Concluded from Page* 231.)

Nabob (derived from Naib*, a word signifying deputy) is a title which, at Delhi, none but those who are styled thus in a commission given by the King, dare to assume. In distant provinces Nabobs have governed, who have been registered as dead at Delhi. A Nabob, although appointed by a Subah, ought to have his commission confirmed by the King, or one with an authentic commission appears to supplant him. He then depends upon his own force, or the support of his Subah, and a war between the competitors ensues.

A Nabob is so far despotic in his government, as he can rely upon the protection of his sovereign or his superior. Secure of this, he has nothing to apprehend, but poison or assassination from the treachery or resentment of his subjects.

Nabobs more particularly attach themselves to the command of the army, and leave the civil administration to the Duan†. Duan is properly the judge of the province in civil matters. This office is commonly devolved on a Gentoo, in provinces which by their vicinity or importance to the throne, are more immediately subject to its attention. This officer holds his commission from the King. But by the nature of the government of Indostan, where all look only to one head, he is never more than an assistant: he may be a spy; he cannot be a rival to the power of the Nabob.

He therefore comprehends in his person the offices of Prime Minister, Lord Chancellor, and Secretary of State, without presuming to advise, judge, or issue orders, but according to the will of his master, or to the influence which he has over it. Under the Duan is an officer called the Buggshi*, or Buxey, who is the

* "*Nawwáb* or *Navváb*, from *Náyib*," says Mr. Wilkins, "a deputy, very great deputy; vicegerent, viceroy. N. B. The title of *Nawab* is often given, by courtesy, to persons of high rank or station." The relative ranks of the *Subahdar* and *Nawab* appear to correspond with our Duke and Earl or Count. The Earl presided over an Earldom (or Comté) or County. It is true nevertheless that the office of Duke, in this kingdom, is wholly suppositious, no Dukes, as officers, having ever being established in this kingdom; the Roman *Duke* (Dux), being no other than the Saxon *Earl*, and Norman Comté (comes); and the deputy of the Earl or Count, being the Viscount (vice comes).—*Edit.*

† A *Dewan*, or divan, the same that in Turkish history we call the *divan*. "A place of assembly," and a "native minister of the revenue department, and chief-justice in civil cases in this his jurisdiction." Also, "a receiver-general of a province." "The term has further, by abuse," says Dr. Wilkins, "been used to designate the principal revenue servant under an European collector, and even of a Zemindar. By this title (of Dewan) the East India Company are receivers-general, in perpetuity, of the revenues of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa, under a grant from the Great Mogul." Thus, the term *Divan* has an inferior acceptation in Hindustan than in Turkey, where it signifies the Council of State; and thus, also, in Hindustan, the Dewan, or minister so called, answers to our Chancellor, or to our Chief Baron of the Exchequer, or to both; and the *Dewanny Court of Adawlet* to our Court of Exchequer.—*Edit.*

* A commander; apparently in the sense in which it is used in some orders of knighthood; a

paymaster of the troops, and the disburser of all the public expenses of the government. This must be a post of great advantage. The Buxey has under him an Amuldar*, who is the overseer and manager of all the occasions of expence.

Revenues, imposts, and taxes, are levied throughout the country, by the appearance, if not by the force of the soldiers. The other officers of the province are therefore more immediately military.

Phousdar signifies the commander of a detached body of the army, and in the military government, is a title next to that of the Nabob. As the governors of particular parts of the province have always some troops under their command, such governors are called Phousdars†; although very often the Nabob himself holds no more than this rank at the court of Delhi, from whence all addresses to the rulers of inferior provinces make use only of this term.

Pollygar‡, from the word Pollum, which signifies a town situated in a wood, is the governor of such a town and the country about it; and is likewise become the title of all who rule any considerable town, commanding a large district of land. This term is only used on the coast of Coromandel. In other provinces of the empire, all such governors pass under the general title of Zemindars.

A Havildar* is the officer placed by the government to superintend a small village.

The Havildar plunders the village, and is himself fleeced by the Zemindar; the Zemindar by the Phousdar; the Phousdar by the Nabob, or his Duan. The Duan is the Nabob's head slave: and the Nabob compounds on the best terms he can make, with his Subah, or the throne.

Wherever this gradation is interrupted, bloodshed ensues.

Kellidar† is the governor or commander of a fort.

Munsubdar‡ is now a title of honour held from the throne, and exalted according to the number of horsemen which he is permitted in his commission to command. There are Munsubdars of ten thousand, and others of two hundred and fifty. This title originally signified a commissioned officer, who by favour from the throne had obtained a particular district of lands, to be allotted for his maintenance instead of a salary.

Zemindar§, derived from Zemin, the word signifying lands, is the proprietor of a tract of land given in inheritance by the King or the Nabob, and who stipulates the revenue which he is to pay for

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title with an endowment. "*Bukhsian Azam*," says Dr. Wilkins, from "*bakh-shiyán-i-azzam*, the most exalted commanders; a *jaghire*, appropriation so called, for the support of the commanders of the royal armies." From similar institutions are derived the appropriations in Europe called *commanderies*.—*Edit.*

* *Aumil*, a great officer, native collector of revenue. Superintendant of a district or division of a country, either on the part of the government, *Zemindar*, or renter. The same as *Aumildar*; agent, the holder of an office. An intendant and collector of the revenue, uniting civil and financial powers, under the Muhammadan government. "The terms ámil and amil-dár," adds Dr. Wilkins, "are synonymous." It should appear, at the same time, from these explanations, that the term *amil* is usually applied to an Hindu collector, and the term amil-dár to a Mahammadan or Mogul collector.—*Edit.*

† *Foujdar*, "says Dr. Wilkins, "fauj-dár," from "fauj," an army and "dár," keeper, holder. Under the Mogul government, a magistrate of the police over a large district, who took cognizance of all criminal matters within his jurisdiction, and sometimes was employed as receiver general of the revenues."—*Edit.*

‡ *Polligar*, head of a village-district. Military chieftain in the Peninsula, similar to a Hill Zemindar in the Northern Circars. The chief of a Pollam or Pollum."—*Edit.*

* *Havelly* (havili) a house, habitation, domain. In Bengal, the term is applied to such lands as are held by a Zemindar for his own benefit; but at Madras it designates such as are under the immediate management of government, without the intervention of Zemindars or Jaghiredars.—*Edit.*

† "*Koolcurney*, Koolkernain, Koolcúrny, kulkurny (from kularnai and kulkarnam, *Telinga*) a village accountant, in the Northern Circars."—*Edit.*

‡ "*Munsubdar* (mansabdár) the holder of a *munsub*. Munsub is an officer of dignity and title, generally of a military nature. Jaghire appropriations to military officers, on condition of service, are called Munsubdars."—*Edit.*

§ "*Zamin*," earth, land; and "*dar*," holder, keeper; landholder or keeper. An officer who, under the Muhammadan government was charged with the superintendence of the lands of a district, financially considered, the protection of the cultivators, and the realization of the government's share of its produce, either in money or kind; out of which, he was allowed a commission, amounting to about ten per cent. and, occasionally, a special grant of the government's share of the produce of the land of a certain number of villages for his subsistence, called *Nauncar*. The appointment was occasionally

the peaceable possession of it. Such Zemindars are not now to be frequently met with; but the title every where: it is transferred to all the little superintendants or officers under the Phousdar.

Cazee* is the Mahomedan judge ecclesiastical, who supports, and is supported by the Koran. He is extremely venerated.

In treating upon the administration of justice in Indostan, farther lights might be thrown upon this subject of the government of the provinces.

Of the Gentoo Principalities.

It is a remark warranted by constant observation, that wherever the government is administered by Gentoos, the people are subject to more and severer oppressions than when ruled by the Moors.

I have imputed this to intelligent Gentoos, who have confessed the justice of the accusation, and have not scrupled to give their opinions concerning it.

renewed; and it was generally continued in the same person, so long as he conducted himself to the satisfaction of the ruling power, and can continue it to his heirs; so, that in process of time, and through the decay of that power, and the confusion which ensued, hereditary right (at best prescriptive) was claimed, and tacitly acknowledged; till at length the Zemindars of Bengal in particular, from being the mere superitedents of the land, have been declared hereditary proprietors of the soil and the before fluctuating dues of government, have, under a permanent settlement, been unalterably fixed in perpetuity."—See *Glossary, &c —Edit.*

* "*Cauzy* or Cazi; a Muhammadan judge or justice, who occasionally officiates as a public notary also. He is the same officer whom in Turkey we call a Cadi."—*Edit.*

A Gentoo, say they, is not only born with a spirit of more subtile invention, but by his temperance and education becomes more capable of attention to affairs, than a Moor; who no sooner obtains power, than he is lost in voluptuousness: he becomes vain and lordly, and cannot dispense with satiating the impulses of his sensual appetites; whereas a Gentoo prince retains in his Durbar the same spirit which would actuate him if keeping a shop. Avarice is his predominant passion; and all the wiles, address, cunning, and perseverance, of which he is so exquisite a master, are exerted to the utmost in fulfilling the dictates of this vice; and his religion, instead of inspiring, frees him from the remorse of his crimes; for whilst he is harassing and plundering his people by the most cruel oppressions, he is making peace with his gods by denying nothing to their priests.

The present king of Travancore has conquered or carried war into all the countries which lay round his dominions, and lives in the continual exercise of his arms. To atone for the blood which he has spilt, the Brachmans persuaded him that it was necessary he should be born anew: this ceremony consisted in putting the prince into the body of a golden cow of immense value, where, after he had laid the time prescribed, he came out regenerated, and freed from all the crimes of his former life. The cow was afterwards cut up and divided amongst the seers who had invented this extraordinary method for the remission of his sins.

For the Asiatic Journal.

ST. HELENA A REMAIN OF THE ATLANTIS OF PLATO?

From Beatson's Tracts relative to St. Helena.

THERE are some circumstances which seem to have escaped the notice of those who have written upon St. Helena, arising probably from having taken too short a time to explore it; or from not being able to obtain information. Their accounts have certainly led to several erroneous impressions.

For my own part, I perfectly recollect the idea I had formed of this place before I resided upon it. I considered it merely as a rocky island, *rising abruptly out of the ocean*, and having an unfathomable depth all around it: excepting at James's Bay and Sandy Bay, where the anchorage grounds, as I then imagined, had been formed by the deposition of soil washed down by the rains.

Such were my own ideas from the accounts I had read and heard; and as I

have very strong reason to believe that this is the general notion of St. Helena, at the present time, it is proper I should enter a little more into its local and physical circumstances.

That part of St. Helena *which is elevated above water* measures $10\frac{1}{2}$ miles long, $6\frac{3}{4}$ broad, and is 28 miles in circumference. The coast is on all sides formed by stupendous and almost perpendicular cliffs, rising from the height of from six to more than twelve hundred feet. The principal accessible inlets are at James's Town, Rupert's Bay, Lemon Valley and Sandy Bay: all these have been strongly fortified. Several reeffs of rocks, called ledges, jut out to the distance of two to four miles; others are detached, some commencing at half a mile or more; and there is one in particular called "New Ledge Fishing Bank," whose outer edge or extremity is said to be not less than nine miles distant from the coast. The soundings, at the farthest part, are 45 to 70 fathoms.

Besides these ledges there are several detached rocks or small islands at a little distance; of which the principal are *Egg Island, Speery*, and *George's Island.* All these, excepting the last, which is on the south-east, are situated to the west or south-west; and as the New Ledge, which is the largest of the ledges, or fishing banks, trends in that direction, it may be presumed that this is also the direction of the higher part of the projecting base of the island under water.

In respect to the depth of water on the south and east, I have no particular information—perhaps being to windward of the island, and not so convenient to the fishing boats, may be the reason that those parts have not been hitherto explored.

According to a minute survey, taken by Captain Austin of the Royal Navy, along the northern face of the island, the bottom of the sea, extending from Flagstaff Bay to Horse-pasture point, comprising about 16 square miles, shelves very gradually. Three miles north of the coast at *Flag-staff* there is ground at 82 fathoms; and at three quarters of a mile from *Horse-pasture,* there are 36 fathoms. It appears also by this survey that the bottom is in general, smooth and even; consisting of mud, mud and shells, sand with specks, here and there coral, and at one or two places rock. But in sounding to the westward the surface was found by Captains Cowan and Beville* more irregular; and apparently resembling the surface of the island, consisting of hollows and ridges.

Hence it is evident that this island, resting upon a base, which extends at least 25 miles from east to west, is not "a rock rising abruptly," as had been erroneously supposed; but is rather the pinnacle of a prominence in the bed of the ocean, gradually ascending from unfathomable depths, to 2700 feet above the water: which is the elevation of Diana's Peak, the highest mountain on the island.

This deduction seems consonant to the opinions of some theorists, who have considered "islands as the tops of lofty mountains; the eminences of a great continent, converted into islands by a tremendous concussion of nature:"† but whether the circumstances, above stated, may be in any way useful to geologists, or whether they may throw further light upon the origin and formation of islands, or lead to new conjectures upon the probable scite of the *Atlantica Insula,* mentioned by Plato, to have been partially destroyed by an earthquake and deluge, I shall not presume to say.

If, however, any large island ever did exist in the part of the Atlantic under consideration, it might be inferred, according to those theorists, that the islands of *St. Helena, Ascension, Saxemberg, Tristan d'Acunha,* and *Gough's Island,* may have been its "lofty mountains and eminences;" and that the whole space within that chain of islands, which is 1800 miles in length, and about 500 in breadth, has been sunk into the sea.

It is very remarkable, and well deserving the attention of naturalists, that a species of gum-wood tree *(Conyza gummifera),* which is indigenous to the island of St. Helena, and which has not, I believe been discovered upon the opposite continent of Africa, has been found upon Gough's Island and Tristan d'Acunha. I have in my possession a sketch of the island of Saxemberg, upon which some trees are also represented; of what

* Commanders of the Camperdown cutter.

† L'Abbé Raynal, L'Abbé Pluche, and others.

sort I am not informed. But, if it should be ascertained hereafter, that they are of the same species as those on the other three islands, this might be an additional reason for supposing that all those islands, and perhaps Ascension, which has now no trees upon it, may have been, at some remote period, united.

If the possibility of this connection be for a moment admitted, the question of immersion, according to M. Buffon's hypothesis, might readily be solved. "History," says this celebrated naturalist, "informs us of inundations and deluges of an extensive nature. Ought not all this to convince us, that the surface of the earth has experienced very great revolutions? Let us suppose, for example, that the old and new worlds were formerly but one continent; and that by an earthquake, the ancient Atlantis of Plato was sunk; the consequence of this mighty revolution must necessarily be, that the sea would rush in from all quarters, and form what is now called the Atlantic Ocean."

Having now adverted to such circumstances as appear to substantiate the opinion entertained by Mr. Forster, that St. Helena must have existed above water, before it had a volcano, and was afterwards violently changed, and partly subverted by subterraneous fire, it may be proper to shew in what manner this writer supports and illustrates that opinion by the appearances of Ascension and St. Helena.

"The dreariness of Ascension," says Mr. Forster, "surpassed all the horrors of Easter Island, and Terra del Fuego, even without the assistance of snow. It was a ruinous heap of rocks, changed by the fire of a volcano. Nearly in the centre of the island, rises a broad, white mountain of great height, on which we discovered some verdure by the help of our glasses, from whence it has obtained the name of *Green Mountain*. On landing, we ascended among heaps of black cavernous stone, which perfectly resembles the most common lavas of Vesuvius and Iceland; and of which the broken pieces looked as if they had been accumulated by art. The lava currents cooling very suddenly, may easily be imagined to produce such an effect. Having ascended about fifteen yards perpendicular, we found ourselves on a great level plain of six or eight miles in circuit; in one corner of which, we observed a large hill of an exact conical shape, and of a reddish colour, standing perfectly insulated. Part of the plain between those hills was covered with great numbers of smaller hillocks, consisting of the same wild and rugged lava as that near the sea, and ringing like glass, when two pieces are knocked together. The ground between the heaps of lava was covered with black earth; but where these heaps did not appear, the whole was red earth. The conic hills consisted of a very different sort of lava, which was red, soft, and crumbling into earth. We concluded that the plain on which we stood was once the crater, or seat of a volcano, by the accumulation of whose cinders and pumice-stones, the conic hills had been gradually formed; and that the currents of lava, which we now saw divided into many heaps, had perhaps been gradually buried in fresh cinders and ashes; and the waters coming down from the interior mountains, in the rainy season, had smoothened every thing in their way, and filled up by degrees the cavity of the crater. The rocky black lava was the residence of numberless man-of-war birds and boobies, which sat on their eggs, and suffered us to come close to them. On all this rocky ground, we only met with ten shrivelled plants, which were of two sorts, a species of spurge and a bind weed.

"Having climbed over an extensive and tremendous current of lava, more solid than that near the shore, we came to the foot of the *Green Mountain*, which even from the ship, we had plainly distinguished to be of a different nature from the rest of the country. The lava which surrounded it, was covered with a prodigious quantity of purslane and a kind of new fern. The great mountain is divided in its extremities, by various clifts, into several bodies; but in the centre they all unite and form one broad mass of great height. The whole appears to consist of a gritty tophaceous limestone, which has never been attacked by the volcano, but probably existed prior to its eruption.

"St. Helena has on its outside, especially where the ships lie at anchor, an

appearance, if possible, more dreadful and dreary than Ascension: but the further you advance, the less desolate the country appears, and the most interior parts are always covered with plants, trees and verdure. However, there are every where the most evident marks of its having undergone a great and total change, from a volcano and earthquake, which perhaps sunk the greatest part of it in the sea.

"We visited (says the same author) isles that had still volcanoes burning; others that had only elevation, and marks of being formed in remote ages by a volcano; and lastly we found isles that had no remains of a volcano, but strong and undoubted vestiges of having been *violently changed* and *partly overturned by an earthquake, subterraneous fire, and a volcano.* I cannot help referring Easter Island, St. Helena, and Ascension to the last."

The circumstances which have been noticed concerning the strata of Ladder Hill and High Knoll, cannot, I presume, admit of a doubt, that those parts have undergone a great change since the island was formed; and that this change has been effected by eruptions from a volcano, succeeded by an earthquake. But whether those other changes, which are visible in many other parts have been produced by similar causes, or subterraneous fire, it is perhaps wholly impossible to ascertain: nor does it even seem probable, that the effects from either, or from all these causes, could have left the island in the state it now is.

There is a central ridge, which, running east and west, divides the island, into, nearly, two equal portions. In no part of this ridge (which is elevated 2000 feet above the level of the sea) is there a single chasm or opening. It seems, therefore, wholly unaccountable that it should have escaped being broken and shattered, if earthquakes, or subterraneous fires had occasioned the "overturnings." This ridge is narrow on the top; and very abrupt on the south, especially between Diana Peak and Manatee Bay. It continues eastward to the Devil's Punch Bowl, where it again narrows, and then spreads out and forms the Great Wood Plain.—At the Punch Bowl it becomes so narrow that it seems nearly to have been broken: yet the whole extent, including the Great Wood, has stood fast, in spite of all appearances of disruption on either side.

When the island was discovered (three hundred and thirteen years ago), it is said, there were no living animals upon it; and that seals, sea-lions, turtle, and sea-fowl, occasionally frequented its shores. All this is perfectly reconcileable to the idea that St. Helena is a new land, raised from the bed of the ocean. But if we admit this to be the fact, how are we to account for the origin of the present insect tribe; which are pretty numerous, consisting of various sorts of beetles, grubs, and worms? If these did not exist at the period of discovery, there seems to be no other mode of explaining their present existence, than by reviving the exploded doctrine of equivocal or spontaneous generation. Under this difficulty, it may possibly be inferred, that these sorts of insects actually must have existed: and, hence it would follow, as a natural consequence, that subterraneous fire, and volcanic eruption, have not been the sole causes of formation: because, in either case, no creature whatever could have remained alive.

The introduction of quadrupeds, domestic fowls, and birds, remaining at present, may be easily conceived.* There is, however, a species of land bird, inhabiting the interior, and found in considerable numbers, of which, I believe, no notice has ever been taken by any writer on St. Helena. It is of that description not likely to be brought there by shipping, and seems for this reason particularly to deserve attention. It is not a bird of passage, for it is seen throughout the year: indeed none of that description have ever found their way to St. Helena. In appearance, and size, and some of its habits, it resembles the common sand-lark frequently seen on the shores of Europe. It is called the "Wire-Bird;" probably from its very long legs,

* Domestic fowls of all descriptions thrive at St. Helena. Besides these, there are peacocks, guinea-fowls, pheasants, partridges, doves, paroquets, Java sparrows, canaries, and averdavats. All these have evidently been imported by shipping. There are also some rabbits, but no hares. The wire-bird, alone, is of that description which cannot be supposed to have been imported.

resembling wires, which enable it to run with uncommon swiftness. The legs are of a greenish colour: the body and wings gray; the breast white; eyes large, and the bill moderately long. In its nature it is rather shy; and as it does not seem to possess those powers of flight which could have brought it from America or Africa, it seems, therefore, not unreasonable to conclude, that it is indeginous to the island. If so, it may be considered as an additional fact, favourable to the conjecture that St. Helena is a fragment of a larger island.

I have already mentioned, upon the authority of Captain Heywood, who commanded his Majesty's ship Nereus, that the indeginous gum-wood trees of St. Helena are the same as on Tristan d'Acunha and Gough's Island. It would be of importance to ascertain with accuracy this fact; and whether the wire-bird be also a native of those islands, and of Ascension and Saxemberg. If all these points should be verified, trifling as they may appear, they would be important to the cause of geology.

For the Asiatic Journal.

SAN-YU-LOW,

OR, THE THREE DEDICATED ROOMS.*

(Concluded from Page 249.)

Section III.

Argument.—*A benevolent personage lays a plot to circumvent the covetous man. The virtuous magistrate diligently endeavours to clear up a doubtful case.*

Yu Ke-woo, having heard what the woman had to say, returned home. He then fancied himself to be the examining magistrate, and again and again considered the matter in different lights, saying, "Not to mention that this treasure is *not* the patrimony of my ancestors, yet allowing that it *were* so, how came their son to know nothing about it; nor my kindred to contend for its possession? On the contrary, it was a person out of the family who knew of it, and presented a petition on the subject. As the petition was without a name, it is plain that he must be an enemy (to the poor man), I have no doubt about it. Having some cause of dislike towards him, he thought nothing too bad to charge him with, and therefore pointed him out as a harbourer of thieves. At the time of taking up the treasure, the petitioner's words, too, were verified, and it answered exactly to the amount specified in the document, without being more or less. But it is difficult to conceive, that he who presented the petition, for the sake of gratifying a secret enmity, should be willing to risk such a vast sum, and having placed it in another's ground, should go and carry on such a foolish business."

He considered it for several days, but could make nothing of the matter. It was the constant subject of his thoughts; and during his sleep, and in his dreams, he cried out and muttered broken sentences. His mother, hearing him, asked what was the matter. He then took the woman's words, and recounted them minutely. When she first heard him, his mother likewise was very suspicious, but having considered for a time, discovered it, and exclaimed, "It must be, it must be! This treasure does indeed belong to my family; he was right enough in his conjectures. When your father was alive, he had a friend who came from a distance. This friend slept several nights in the lowest of the Three Dedicated Rooms; and perceived a white rat, which ran about, and then darted into the floor. At the time of his departure, he spoke to your father, desiring him by no means to sell the apartments; for he might hereafter acquire some unlooked-for treasure. By all appearances, this treasure has come to light. Your father, by not taking it, made it a source of mis-

* The alterations in the text were made, we find, by the translator himself, in a copy lately transmitted, and not by a friend, as stated in our last number.

fortune to others; do you then go and recognize it, and thereby save the man's life."

Ke-woo answered, "There is something more to be said on this subject. Such an idle story as this, is not fit for the mouth of a respectable personage; and when I talk about a white rat to the Hëen, who knows but he will suspect that I covet that large sum of money; and not liking to take it myself, have trumped up this story, in order to impose upon simple people. Besides, neither was this white rat seen by the eyes of my father, nor was this idle story related by my father's mouth. The more I consider it, the more empty does it appear; it may indeed be called the dream of an ideot. If this were the property of my family, my father should have seen it; or how happened it, that I myself perceived nothing of the kind, but that it should appear to another? The business is entirely without foundation; there is no occasion to believe it. Still, however, it will be proper to consult with the Hëen, and to clear up this doubtful case, in order to save a guiltless plebeian. This will be acting like a virtuous officer.

Just as he had done speaking, a servant suddenly announced that the Hëen had arrived to pay his respects. Ke-woo said, "I was just wishing to see him; make haste, and request that he will come in." When the Hëen had paid his respects, and talked a little on general subjects, he waited not till Ke-woo had opened his mouth, but took up the doubtful affair, and requested his instruction, saying, "Tang such a one,* the possessor of the hoard, has again and again been closely examined, but the truth could not be obtained. He yesterday made a deposition saying, that the place, where the hoard was discovered, originally belonged to your family; and that, therefore, the treasure must have been left by your ancestors. I accordingly came, in the first place, to pay my respects; and secondly to request your instructions, not knowing whether such be the case or not."

Ke-woo said, "My family, for several successive generations, has been very poor; nor did my immediate predecessors accumulate any thing. I, therefore, cannot unjustly lay claim to the treasure; for by so doing, I should acquire a bad name. There must be something else in this affair; nor is it necessary to assert that it is a hord accumulated by a nest of thieves. I entreat, Sir, that you will still continue a clear investigation, and effect a decision of the business. If you can bring the crime home to the prisoner Tang, then well and good.

The Hëen said, "At the period when your father departed this life,* you yourself, Sir, were still a child, and therefore, perhaps could not be fully acquainted with former circumstances. Why should we not ask your mother, whether or not, before the property was disposed of, she heard of any thing particular?"

Kee-woo answered, "I have already asked my mother, but she talks a little at random; and I never heard it from my father. As I am now, Sir, speaking before you, it is not proper for me to talk idly. I will therefore, keep it to myself." The Hëen, hearing this, pressed him to speak out; but Ke-woo was determined to say nothing.

His mother was fortunately standing behind the screen, and wishing sincerely to do a good action, desired her steward to go out, and taking the story in question, recount it minutely for his master. When the Hëen heard it, he considered silently for some time, and then said to the steward, "I will trouble you to go in and ask, where is the dwelling house of him who saw the white rat; whether he is at present alive or not; whether his family is rich or poor; on what terms of intimacy was your master with him during his life time; and whether they were in the habit of rendering each other mutual assistance? I have to request that your lady will speak with precision; as the present day's inquiry may serve in the place of a formal trial; and, perhaps, in the course of the discussion, this obscure case may be cleared up."

The steward went in for a while, and

* The Hëen was acquainted with merely his Sing, or his surname, which, among the Chinese is always, placed before the Ming or the Tsze, the name or the epithet. He therefore said, Tang mow, "Tang such a one."

* The Chinese, like the ancient Romans, have a superstitious aversion to mentioning any person's death in direct terms. The expression here used, is Sëen she, "to pass over to immortality, or become immortal."

coming back, answered, "My mistress says, that the person who saw the white rat was from afar; and lived in such a Foo, and such a Hëen. He is not yet dead, and his fortune is very large. He is a man of great virtue, who sets a small value on riches, and was on terms of strictest friendship with my former master. Seeing that he had sold his pleasure ground, and that he must hereafter part with his rooms, he wanted to produce the money and redeem it for him. As my former master would not consent, his friend therefore went no farther. The words in question are those he uttered at the period of his departure." The Hëen having considered a little, directed the steward to go in and ask, saying, "Did he, after your lord's death, come to pay his vows to the deceased, and then meet with your ladyship? Pray mention any expression which you might have heard him utter."

The steward went in, and returned, saying, "When my master had been dead for upwards of ten years, his friend then knew of it, and came on purpose to pay honours to his memory. Seeing that the apartments were sold, he was very much surprised; and asked, "After my departure, did you obtain that unlooked for treasure (which I predicted)? My mistress answered, that indeed they did not obtain it. He then sighed, and said, "It is a fine thing for those who bought the property. Deceitful in their hearts, and contriving plots to get possession of the buildings, they have acquired wealth which they did not deserve. By and by, however, they will meet with an unlooked for calamity." A very few days after his departure, some persons brought an accusation against the family of Tang, and gave rise to this business. My mistress constantly praised and admired him, saying "That he was one who could see into futurity."

The Hëen having heard thus far, laughed heartily, and going towards the screen, made a low bow, saying, "Many thanks to your ladyship for your instruction, which has enabled me, a dull magistrate, to make out this extraordinary business. There is no necessity for further inquiry. I will trouble your messenger to bring a receipt, and will then send the twenty pieces of treasure to your house."

Ke-woo said, "What are your reasons for so doing? I still have to intreat, Sir, that you will make the matter clear to me." The Hëen answered, "These twenty pieces of treasure were neither left by your ancestors, nor were they stolen by the prisoner Tang. The fact is just this. That excellent personage wished to redeem the property for your father; but as your father possessed a very independent disposition, and tenaciously refused, his friend on this account deposited the money, conferring it on him as the means of redeeming the property hereafter. As he could not tell him this plainly, he pretended the agency of some spirit; with the idea that, having waited till he was gone, your father would dig up the treasure. When he came to pay honours to the deceased, seeing that he had not recovered the pleasure-ground, but had also sold his dwelling, your friend then knew that the treasure was in the hands of the enemy, and was vexed beyond measure. At his departure, therefore, he left an anonymous petition, with the intention of waiting till the family was broken, and the property dispersed. As the truth is now plain, your original possessions ought to be restored, and presented back to you. What is there to say against this?"

Ke-woo having heard this, though in his heart he applauded him, still had an objection to the measure, from the suspicion which might accrue. He did not wish to thank the Hëen in too great a hurry; but making him a bow, said, that "he had formed an excellent conclusion, and must be possessed of admirable wisdom. That though Lung-too* himself were to re-appear, he could not equal this. At the same time, (said he,) though you conclude this treasure must have been left by our generous friend, still there are no persons to bear witness to it, and it is not well for me to put in a claim rashly. I intreat, Sir, that you will keep it in your treasury, to supply the wants of the people during famine."

While he was still declining the acceptance of it, a servant came in, with a red ticket in his hand, and in a whisper, announced to his master, saying, "the per-

* A famous magistrate of ancient times. Lung-too-ta-heo-sze was his title; his real name being Paou-wanching. He is now deified, and has temples to his memory.

son of whom you have just now been talking,* is at the door. He says that he has come from the distance of above a thousand Le,† to pay his respects to my mistress. As the Hëen is present, I ought not to announce him; but since he is acquainted with the business, and has arrived at a very lucky moment, I therefore let you know, Sir, as you may wish to request his entrance for the purpose of questioning him." Ke-woo rejoiced greatly, and informed the Hëen. The latter was ready to dance with joy, and desired that he might quickly be requested to enter.

He appeared to be a venerable personage, with a round face, and white locks. He paid his respects to his friend, but only slightly regarded the Hëen, who was a stranger to him; and having made a bow, advanced onward, saying, "The object of my coming to-day, was to see the wife of my deceased friend. I came not to court the rich and powerful; nor do your affairs concern me, a person from the country. I presume not to visit you; so shew me the way into the house, that I may go and see the lady."

Ke-woo said, "As my venerable friend has come from a distance, it is not right to treat him as a visitor. Since the Hëen, however, is concerned in a difficult affair, and wants to ask you some questions; and as it is a great occurrence to find you here, we intreat you will not object to sitting down for a moment."

The old gentleman hearing these words, made his obeisance and sat down. The Hëen took some tea with him; and then, bowing, said, "About twenty years since, you performed, Sir, an act of great virtue. No person at first knew of it. It has just now fallen to my lot to bring the matter to light. With respect to that treasure, which was given to your friend, without the least notice, except by some reference to the agency of spirits, pray, Sir, was not you the author of it?"

When the old gentleman heard this, he was taken by surprise, and for some time did not speak; having recovered his embarrassment, he said in answer, "How should such a rustic as I perform any act of great virtue! What, Sir, can you mean by your question?"

Ke-woo said, "Some expressions respecting a white rat, were heard to proceed, Sir, from your mouth. On account of a certain suspicious affair, they were going to impute the crime of harbouring thieves, to a worthy person. As I could not bear this, I requested the Hëen to set him at liberty. While we were talking about it, we, by degrees, got a clue to the subject: but, since we are not certain, whether the story of the white rat be true or false, we have to request a word from you, Sir, to settle it."

The old gentleman determinedly refused, and would not speak; till a message came from the lady, begging him to give up all the truth, in order that a worthy person might be exculpated. He then laughed, and taking the circumstances which had been profoundly secreted in his breast for upwards of twenty years, let the whole out. They *agreed*, to a tittle, with what the Hëen had said. Having directed the people to bring the treasure, in order that they might examine the letters and marks upon its surface; all these particulars agreed exactly.

The Hëen and Ke-woo admired the old gentleman's great virtues; Ke-woo expatiated with the old gentleman, on the penetrating genius of the Hëen; while the Hëen, again, with the old gentleman, dealt out their praises on the conduct of Ke-woo, who had conferred benefits instead of cherishing resentment. "Such actions as these," said they, "would be hereafter talked of far and wide; one might know this without divination."

They went on with their praises of each other without ceasing: and the attendants who were present put their hands to their mouths in order to repress their laughter, saying, that "The Hëen had issued orders to apprehend him, who had presented the anonymous petition. Now, when he had found him out, instead of giving him a beating, he was sitting down and conversing with him. This was quite a new thing!"

When the Hëen returned to his office, he sent a messenger to deliver the twen-

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* This servant must have waited at the conference. It is customary among the Chinese to have a number of attendants present on all occasions of ceremony.

† In the Maps of China, drawn by the Jesuits, 250 Le are allowed to a degree.

ty pieces of treasure, as well as to procure a receipt for the same. Ke-woo, however, would not receive it. He wrote back a letter to the Hëen, requesting that he would give this money over to the family of Tang, and redeem the property with it. That, in the first place, this would be fulfilling the intentions of his father; secondly, it would accord with the wishes of his generous friend; and lastly it would enable Tang's family to purchase some other residence. Thus, neither the givers, nor the receivers, would be injured in the least.

All parties praised such unexampled generosity. The Hëen, in compliance with the words of the letter, released the prisoner Tang from his confinement, and delivering to him the original price, received from him the two deeds, by which the property had been sold. A messenger being sent off with these, the pleasure-ground, and the apartments, were delivered into the possession of their original master.

On the same day, in the highest of the "Three Dedicated Rooms," he offered up wine, in token of gratitude to heaven; saying, "Thus amply has my father's virtue been rewarded; thus bitter has been the recompense of Tang's crimes. O! how is it, that men are afraid of virtue; or how is it, that they delight in being vicious!"

Tang Yo-chuen's son and his wife made out a deed, as before, delivering up their persons, and, together with the price of the house, which they had received from the Hëen, offered it to Ke-woo, intreating that he would accept of their services for the remainder of their lives. Ke-woo resolutely refused the acceptance; but at the same time quieted them with kind words. Then the husband and wife, having engraved a tablet, wishing him long life, took it home and made offerings to it. Though they could not prevail upon him to receive them into his service, they recognised him as their master. They not only endeavoured to recompense his past favours, but also wanted every body to know that they belonged to the family of Yu; for then no person would venture to molest them.

In order to remember these circumstances, every one had a stanza of verses, the object of which was to advise persons of opulence, not to be contriving schemes for the acquirement of their neighbours' property. The lines were to this effect.

"By want compell'd he sold his house and land,
Both house and land, and purchasers, return;
Thus profit ends the course by virtue plann'd,
While envious plotters their misfortunes mourn."

MORAL.

The clear judgment of the Hëen, the disinterested generosity of the old friend, and the moderation of Kee-woo, in living retired, without cherishing resentment, are all three deserving of everlasting remembrance. Those who are magistrates ought to make the Hëen their example. Country gentlemen ought to take a lesson of Ke-woo. Those people, however, who possess great wealth, should not altogether copy the old friend, because his conduct in presenting the anonymous petition, cannot be held forth for imitation. As to the actions of such generous friends hitherto but very few are worthy to be imitated. Those few whose conduct can be recommended, have been men of justice. With respect, then, to such generous friends, the difference, between those who are just, and those who are only generous, consists, in the conduct of the one being worthy of imitation, and that of the others not.

For the Asiatic Journal.

A DISCOURSE

Delivered to the Literary and Scientific Society at Java, on the 10th of September, 1815,

BY THE HON. THOMAS STAMFORD RAFFLES, PRESIDENT.

Gentlemen,—A series of domestic afflictions, alas! but too well known to you all, have followed in such quick succession the melancholy event which it was long since my duty to communicate, that, until the present hour, I have felt myself every way unequal to the trying task of announcing to you the death of our late noble and enlightened patron, the Earl of Minto; an event so unlooked for

and so painfully calamitous in its immediate effects, that, to use the energetic language of Mr. Muntinghe, "it obliged us, as it were, to close our lips before the Almighty!"

Strong, and extensive in their operation, were the ties which attached that noble person to this colony—to the whole community of Java—and especially to our society! A tender and parental care for the island of Java was publicly declared on different occasions, and proofs of it were received. The European community was saved by his humanity, and on his responsibility; for the native administration, principles on which the whole of the present structure has been raised, were laid down; and, in every instance, the wish was evinced, to employ the successes of war as much in favour of the conquered as of the conqueror.

It would not be proper, on this occasion, to enter into particulars; but who does not gratefully recollect the general tenor of his Lordship's conduct and demeanour while in Java, administering assistance with his own hands to the maimed and wounded among the enemy; setting, in the midst of his victories, an example of moderation, and of simplicity of manners; never missing an opportunity of doing even a momentary good; and conciliating, by these means, the mind of the public in such a degree, that enemies were rendered friends, and that the names of conqueror and subduer were lost in those of protector and liberator.

Having paid this humble tribute to the memory of our departed patron, I proceed to notice those scientific and literary acquisitions which have either resulted from the inquiries set on foot by the Society, or have otherwise fallen under its observation, since I had last the honour of publicly addressing you.

BANCA.

At that period, Dr. Horsefield had just commenced, under the instructions of government, his laborious researches in Banca. We have since seen those exertions brought to a close; and I have to report a collection of the most complete information regarding the position, geological structure and natural productions of that important island: the state of society has not been omitted in that investigation; and satisfactory data have been furnished, from which to estimate the present condition of its inhabitants, as well as to deduce plans for their progress and advancement in civilization and happiness.*

It is only during the late periods of the European establishments, that Banca has attracted notice. The discovery of the tin-mines about the twelfth year of the last century, first gave it celebrity; but we can only date the commencement of scientific investigation, or European controul, from the time of its cession to the British government, in 1812. The Dutch government, it is true, set on foot, at different periods; and some account of the population and produce of the country is contained in the earlier volumes of our transactions; but those views being confined to commercial objects, and the despotic sway of the native government of Palambang still remaining absolute, but little was known of the country, beyond the extent of the produce in tin which it could annually export.†

In aid of the geographical description, and to point out the places referred to in the descriptions of the mines, and in the detail of the mineralogical and botanical remarks, Dr. Horsefield has constructed the outlines of a map, on which are laid down the principal rivers, the mountains and ridges of hills, with the settlements of the Malays and Chinese, and the local subdivisions adopted by the original inhabitants.

After completing a detailed geographical account of the island, and furnishing statistic tables of the population and produce, Dr. Horsefield proceeds to a narrative of the mineralogical appearances, as explanatory of the constitution of the

* The island of Banca intended in the text, lies off the north-eastern coast of Sumatra, opposite the mouth of the river Palambang, and forms the eastern shore of the straits called after its name. It is estimated at one hundred and thirty miles in length, by thirty-five in average breadth. *Banca* is also the name of a very small island, surrounded by a cluster of islands still smaller, lying off the north eastern extremity of Celebes.—*Edit.*

† The tin-mines in Banca are said to have been discovered in 1610, through the accidental burning of a house. Former writers have described them as worked by a colony of Chinese, of twenty-five thousand persons, under the nominal direction of the Rajah of Palambang, but for the account and benefit of the Dutch company, which endeavoured to monopolize the trade, and actually obtained two millions of pounds annually. The island and mines, according to some, were taken possession of by the British in 1813.—*Edit.*

mines, and of the geological history of the country.

On the mineralogical constitution of Banca, he observes, that the direction of the island being from north-west to south-east, it follows, not only the direction of Sumatra and the Malayan peninsula, but also the great chain of Asiatic mountains, one of the many branches of which terminates in Ceylon, while another, traversing Arakan, Pegu, the Malayan peninsula, and probably Sumatra, sends off an inferior range through Banca and Billiton,* where it be considered to disappear.

The elevated parts of Banca are observed to have the same constitution as the great continental chain, being composed principally of granite; after which occurs a species of rock which Dr. Horsefield terms *red iron-stone*, extensively distributed in situations of secondary elevation, in single rocks, or in veins covering large tracts of country. Tracts composed of this rock are bounded by alluvial districts, which are again subdivided into undulating hills, gradually rising on others of apparently prior formation, and such as are low and level, of recent origin, and bordering on the mouths of the rivers. Those districts which, occuring in juxta-position with the primitive portions, fill that space between these latter and the veins of red iron-stone, or, again, between those and the alluvial parts, are stratified; and the strata uniformly horizontally arranged.

It is through these horizontal strata that the tin-ore is represented to be disseminated; and, as far as has hitherto been remarked, it appears to be either immediately under the surface, or at no great distance from it.

Another section of the report contains a view of the tin-mines, exhibiting a general enumeration of those worked at present, or in former periods; with an account of the process of mining, and the economy of the mines.

The process of mining in Banca is remarkable for its simplicity. It consists in an excavation, of a square or oblong form, made by digging perpendicularly to the beds or strata containing the ore, and in a proper application of the water to facilitate the labours of the miners, and the washing of the ore. There is no necessity in Banca, as in countries where the metal lies concealed in deep veins, to have recourse to difficult operations, or expensive machinery; and the process, indeed, requires so little previous instruction, that it is mostly performed by persons whose only qualification is a robust constitution. A favourable spot being selected, the pit is sketched out, a canal conducted from the nearest rivulet, and then, the miners excavate the soil until they arrive at the stratum containing the ore, which is next deposited in heaps near the water, so as to be placed conveniently for washing: the aqueduct is lined with the bark of large trees, and, a stronger current being produced by the admission of more water, the heaps are thrown in, and agitated by the workmen; the particles of the ore subsiding through their gravity, and those of common earth being carried away by the current.

When a sufficient quantity of ore is thus accumulated, the process of smelting commences:—this is also very minutely and accurately described by Dr. Horsefield. It is unnecessary to observe, that almost all the operations connected with the process of mining and refining of metal are performed by the Chinese.*

In his botanical pursuits, Dr. Horsefield has been peculiarly successful, his descriptions comprising a collection of upwards of five hundred plants, of which sixteen appear to be of doubtful genera.

An account of the inhabitants, their mode of life and occupations, the state of agriculture, and the history of the

* Billiton is a small island situated between Sumatra and Borneo, estimated at fifty miles long, by forty-five average breadth.—*Edit.*

* Former writers have described seven principal mines, under the direction of Chinese managers, who pay the miners. Wood is employed as fuel; and it is added, that the miners are arrived at much perfection in reducing the ore into metal. The profit derived from the mine to the Dutch company, at one period, is estimated at 150,000*l.* annually. Very little was sent to Europe. Banca tin sells rather higher in China (where it is used for tinning paper for sacrifices. See page 21,) than English grain-tin, as being more malleable. The Chinese have taught the Malays to put iron shot and stones into the slabs of metal, in order fraudently to increase their weight. Under the Dutch company, private merchants and English, and vessels from the United States of America, exported cargoes of Banca tin to China. One hundred and thirty-three pounds of tin-sand of Banca is said to yield, on an average, seventy-five pounds of metal, or rather more than fifty per cent.—*Edit.*

different settlements, is introduced into this valuable report, which I hope will shortly appear in print, under the patronage of the East-India Company. In this expectation, and that I may not diminish the interest excited in its favour, or exceed the latitude with which I am invested, by more extensive drafts on the valuable information which it contains, I shall close these notices of Banca with a short account of the extent and character of the population, as it appeared to Dr. Horsefield, at an early period of the establishment of European influence.

The inhabitants of Banca consist of Malays, Chinese, and indigenes, of whom the latter are subdivided into Orang Gunung (men of the mountains) or Mountaineers ; and Rayads or Orang Laut (men of the sea) or Sea-people. The Malays are few in number, of a peaceable but indolent disposition, and of little importance in the affairs of the island. The Chinese in Banca preserve their original habits of industry, enterprise, and perseverance ; they are the most useful among the inhabitants, and indispensable in the labours of the mines. The general character of the Orang Gunung, or Mountaineers, the original, and, perhaps, most interesting portion of the population. is rude simplicity. Dispersed over large tracts in the interior of the country, they live nearly in a state of nature, but submit without resistance to the general regulations which have been established, and willingly perform the labours required of them ; although their natural timidity, and wandering habits, render them, in a considerable degree, inaccessible to Europeans. The Rayads are the remains of a peculiar people, so called, who, with their families and households, live in small prows, in the Bays of Jebus and Klabut, and obtain subsistence by fishing and adventure. Particulars of the Mountaineers and Rayads,* will form a separate notice.

Borneo.

In Borneo, if we have not enjoyed the advantage of scientific inquiry, we have yet added considerably to our stock of information, in a more correct knowledge of the character and habits of the native population ; in the collection of vocabularies of various dialects of the country ; and in the acquisition of many interesting particulars regarding the extensive colonies of Chinese, by whom the gold-mines of this latter island are worked.

Some notices have been received of ruins of temples, of statues, and dilapidated cities in Borneo, and of the existence of various inscriptions, in different parts of the country, in characters unknown either to the Chinese, Malays, or Dayacs ; but the information yet obtained is too vague, and, in some instances, too contradictory, to be relied upon ; and the question, whether this island, at any former period, rose to any considerable degree of greatness, must yet remain undecided. Embanking, as it were, the navigable pathway between the eastern and western hemispheres, and lying contiguous to the most populous regions of the globe (China and Japan), there can be little doubt but at one period it must have risen far above its present state of degradation and neglect. That Borneo was visited, many centuries ago, by the Chinese and Japanese, is well established ; but whether it was ever more extensively colonized by either of those nations, than it is at present from China, must be left to future inquiry. Porcelain, jars, plates, vases, and earthen utensils of various descriptions, the manufacture of China

* Called, also, in the descriptions of other islands of the Eastern Ocean, Biajoos ; " in reality," says a writer, " a species of sea-gypsey ; " itinerant fishermen, who live in small covered " boats, and enjoy a perpetual summer, shift- " ing to leeward from island to island, with the " variations of the monsoons."—*Edit.*

A second description of Biajoos are found on the north-east of Borneo, where they are called by the Europeans Tiroon (Orang Tidong) and reside up the rivers.

A third, on the north-west coast of Borneo, are more civilized than the others.

A fourth is found on the coasts of Celebes, Borneo, and the Phillipines, consisting of vagrants of several nations ; as, Chinese, Javanese, and natives of Celebes.

The Orang Lauts (sea-men) and Orang Gunung (mountaineers) appear to differ from each chiefly from circumstances incident to their respective modes of life, and to be one and the same ancient people ; the most ancient people of the Eastern Islands, if that title is not to be given to the Papuas, or Oriental Negroes In Ceylon, the Orang Gunung of the Malays are called Idaans and Maroots. *Maroot* is the Sanscrit name of the forty-nine spirits of the winds, dependent on Indra or Jupiter.

The Idaans are called Horaforas (Alfoers) by the Dutch, apparently after the Arabians.—*Edit.*

and Japan, are frequently discovered in different parts of the country; and, such is the veneration in which these articles, so found, are held, that a single jar of this description has been known to be purchased by Dayacs of the interior, for a sum little short of two hundred pounds sterling. They are prized by the Dayacs as the supposed depositaries of the ashes of their forefathers.

I would here take notice of the information collected concerning the different tribes of Dayacs which have come under consideration, but that the detail might appear misplaced in the very general view of the subject which I am of necessity compelled to take, I will only observe, that from a comparative vocabulary of as many of their dialects as are at present accessible, they appear to differ but little from the Malayan; that of the numerous tribes distinguished by their names and other peculiarities, several are represented as tattooed; and that some have curled hair, and resemble the Papuas.

In the vicinity of Banjar-masin* no opportunity of increasing our information has been suffered to be lost. Mr. Alexander Hare, the founder of the interesting colony established in the southern part of the island, has himself penetrated across the south-west peninsula; and, as confidence advances, we may look to a more extensive intercourse with the rude and scattered tribes of the interior.†

Celebes.*

In a former discourse I took occasion to notice, that the most prominent people on Celebes were the Bugis and Macassars; that though speaking different languages, their respective races used the same written character; and that the Mahomedan religion prevailed generally in those parts of the islands which might be considered to have at all advanced from a state of barbarism.

Confining our observations to the south-western limb of this whimsically-shaped island, we may infer, that notwithstanding the country has generally declined since its intercourse with Europeans, it may still be reckoned populous, compared with many of the islands of the east. The population has been roughly estimated at about a million; but the data, on which this estimate was formed, are not to be unreservedly relied upon.

About the period of the first arrival of Europeans in the East, the Macassar and Bugis† tribes were among the principal dealers in spices, and the Isle of Celebes was nearly under the authority of a single sovereign. On the breaking down of that great empire, several of the minor states submitted to European administration; while the support given to the authority of Boni, and the monopoly of the spice-trade by Europeans, effectually reduced the political influence of the ancient state of Goa.

The most ancient state, of which tradition makes mention in Celebes, is Luhu or Luwu, situated in the inner part of the Bay of Boni, and the *Galigas*, or historical romances, are replete with the adventures and exploits of *Sawira Gading*, the first chief of that country, and who is said to have extended his dominions to the straits of Malacca. Next to Luhu, the empire of Goa has the

* A town (and also a district) at the mouth of the river of that name, on the south-eastern coast of Borneo.—*Edit.*

† Borneo (*Varuni*) the largest of the Eastern Islands, is estimated at seven hundred and fifty miles in length, by three hundred and fifty average breadth. The chief European settlements in Borneo are Passir, Banjar-masin, and Pontiana, and the principal native town is Borneo (Varuni); all at the mouths of the river, by whose names they are called. The *Dayacs*, mentioned in the text, are the same Idaans or aborigines of the Eastern Islands, which have been spoken of in a former note. Some of their bands, from the author's description, are composed, as in the case of the Biajoos, of men of various nations; but the account that all their known vocabularies concur in proving an identity between their language and the Malayan, must, if accurate, go far to establish an interesting historical fact: namely, that the aborigines and the Eastern Islands, (Idaans, &c.) are of Malay origin. The inhabitants of the north coast of Borneo have a tradition, that their country was once subject to China. In 1530, when the island was first visited by the Dutch, the Mohammedan religion was found fully established on the sea-coast. The intelligence concerning Borneo, contained in the text, is a most valuable addition to the very slight knowledge hitherto possessed respecting that island. —*Edit.*

* The large island of Celebes is separated from Borneo by the straits of Macassar. Making allowance for the extreme irregularity of its figure, its length is estimated at five hundred miles, by one hundred and fifty miles average breadth. It has Borneo on the west, and Gilolo, or Halamahara, Poby, Ceram, and Amboyna to the east: to the south lies Salayer, divided from Celebes by a strait, called, by the Dutch, the Budgeroons.—*Edit.*

† *Bugis or Bugess.* Celebes is called, by the natives and Malays, Negree Oran Bugess.—*Edit.*

greatest claims to antiquity; and a period is mentioned when this state extended its influence to Achin, Manilla, Sulu, Ternate, and the whole of the Spice-Islands.

In 1663, Rajah Palaka visited Batavia; and, in 1666, co-operated with the Dutch government against the native states on the coast of Sumatra: from this period the authority of Boni advanced, until the recent arrangements by the British government.

The Macassar and Bugis tribes are known to be the most bold, adventurous, and enterprizing of all the people of the Eastern Islands. They were formerly celebrated for their fidelity and their courage; and, for this reason, were employed, like the Swiss in Europe, in foreign armies. They served in those of Siam, Camboja, and other countries, and also as guards to their own princes.*

The most singular political feature in Celebes, is that of an elective monarchy, limited by an aristocracy generally hereditary, and exercising feudal authority over the minor chiefs and population, at all times prepared to take the field; a constitution of civil society which, however common in Europe, is perhaps, without parallel in Asia, where we seldom witness any considerable departure from the despotic sway of an individual. The whole of the states, in that portion of Celebes to which I have alluded, are constituted on the peculiar principle stated:—the prince is chosen from the royal stock by a certain number of counsellors, who also possess the right of subsequently removing him. These counsellors are themselves elected from particular families of the hereditary chiefs of provinces; and, such is their influence, that the prince can neither go to war, nor, indeed, adopt any public measure, except in concert with them. They have the charge of the public treasure, and also appoint the prime minister. The prince cannot himself take the personal command of the army; but the usage of the country admits of a temporary resignation of office for this purpose; in which case, a regent succeeds provisionally to the rank of chief, and carries on the affairs of government in concert with the majority of the council. Women and minors are eligible to election in every department of the state, from the prince down to the lowest chief; and, when this takes place, an additional officer, having a title which literally means "support," or "prop," is appointed to assist. Some variation is observable in the different states. In Boni, the prince is elected by the *Orang Pitu*, or seven hereditary counsellors. In Goa, the prince is chosen by ten counsellors, of whom the first minister, termed *Bechara Buta*, in one. This last officer is himself first appointed by the Council of Nine, termed the Nine Banners of the Country; but in the exercise of his office he possesses very extraordinary powers. He can even remove the prince himself, and call upon the electors to make another choice. The inferior chiefs or *krains*, who administer the dependent province are appointed by the government, and not elected by a provincial council, although in the exercise of their office their power is in like manner limited. The number of the council varies, in different provinces, from two to seven.

War is decided upon in the council of state; and, so forcibly is the desperate ferocity and barbarism of the people depicted by the conduct they observe on these occasions, and in their subsequent proceedings towards their enemies, that however revolting the contemplation of such a state of society may be, it forms too striking a trait in their character to be omitted. War being decided upon by the prince in council, the assembled chiefs, after sprinkling their banners with blood, proceed to take a solemn oath, by dipping their creeses* in a vessel of water, and afterwards dancing around the bloody banner, with frantic gesture and a strange contortion of the body and limbs, so as to give the extended creese a tremulous motion. Each severally imprecates the vengeance of the Deity against his person, if he violates his vow. An enemy is no sooner slain, than the body is decapitated, and treated with every indignity which the barbarous triumph of savages can dictate. The heads are carried on poles, or sent in to the lord-paramount. Some accounts go so far as to represent them de-

* Among Europeans in the Eastern Isles, the word Bugess or Bugis has come to signify a soldier, the same as Sepoy (Sippaheej) on the continent of India.—*Edit.*

* Knives or daggers.

vouring the *raw* heart of their subdued enemy, and, whatever shadow of doubt humanity may throw over this appalling fact, it cannot be denied that their favourite meal is the raw heart and blood of the deer. This latter repast is termed *Lor Dara*, or the feast of the '*Bloody Heart*, which they are said to devour, as among the Battas, in the season when limes and salt are plentiful.

This, however, is viewing them on the worst side of their character, with immediate reference to their conduct in war, and to practices found to prevail among that portion of the population labouring under restrictions on foreign commerce: there are other points of view in which it may be more favourably considered.

The inhabitants of the Wadju districts in particular, are celebrated for their enterprize and intelligence—extending their commercial speculations, with a high character for honourable and fair dealing, from the western shores of Siam to the eastern coast of New Holland. Women, as before observed, take an active part in all public concerns, and are, in no instance, secluded from society, being on a perfect equality with the men. The strongest attachment that is conceivable is felt for ancient customs, and relics of antiquity are held in the highest possible veneration. They are slow and deliberate in their decisions, but these, once formed, are final. Agreements once entered into are invariably observed on their part, and a Bugis is never known to swerve from his bargain. That natural politeness which characterizes the various nations and tribes distinguished by wearing the criss or creese, is no where more forcibly exhibited than among the inhabitants of Celebes. Their minor associations are held together by all the attachment and warmth which have distinguished the clans of North Britain. The same bold spirit of independence and enterprize distinguishes the lower orders; while the pride of ancestry, and the romance of chivalry, are the delight of the higher classes. Attached to the chase as an amusement, rather than as the means of subsistence, the harvest is no sooner reaped, than every feudal chief, with his associates and followers, devotes himself to its pursuits. The population being equally at the command of the feudal lord, whether in time of peace or war, agricultural pursuits, beyond what may procure a bare subsistence, are but little attended to. The usual share of the crop, at the disposal of the chief, is a tithe, termed *sima*; and this, with a few imposts in the *bazars*, and the services of the people, constitute the revenue of the state.

The languages and literature of the Celebes require a more extended and detailed view than it is possible to take of either on the present occasion. I shall therefore only briefly observe, that the languages prevalent throughout these states appear to have been, at no very remote period, one and the same; but the various revolutions which first raised the power of Goa, and subsequently elevated that of Boni to a still higher importance, have, in separating the states under two distinct authorities, given rise to two prevailing dialects, now assuming the appellation of two distinct languages. Of these, the language of Goa or Macassar is peculiarly soft, and is considered to be the more easy of acquisition, but not so copious as that of the Bugis. Whether the Bugis language contains any portion of a more ancient language than either (of which traces are said to exist in some old manuscripts of the country,) or, from commercial intercourse with other states, has adopted more foreign terms, is yet to be determined. The written character is nearly the same; the Macassars, however, using more consonant sounds than the Bugis. The same practice of softening the abrupt or harsh sound of a word ending in a consonant, by attaching a final *a* or *o*, so general in almost every tongue of the archipelago, is common to, and, I believe, invariably observed in both these languages. The possible existence of a language distinct from and anterior to those now in use, is a subject well deserving enquiry.

The Bugis trace back their history to *Sawira Geding*, whom they represent to have proceeded in immediate descent from their heavenly mediator, Bitara Guru, and to have been the first chief of any celebrity in Celebes. He reigned, as I before observed, over Luhu, the most ancient kingdom of Celebes; and a lapse of time, equal to seven *descents*, is said to have taken place before the establishment of Boni. Both

this chieftain, and the founder of the empire of Goa, are represented to have been great navigators and foreigners; or, according to the romance of native tradition, deities sent from heaven to govern and take care of them. The inhabitants of Macassar have no idea by what means, or at what period, the present form of government, of the nine *Glarang*, and the *Bichara Buta* of Goa, was established.

Literary compositions, in both the Macassar and Bugis languages, are numerous. They consist principally in historical accounts of the different states, since the introduction of Mahometanism, which is represented to have taken place so late as the early part of the sixteenth century; and in *galigas* or collections of traditions, regarding more early times, of romances and poetical compositions, in which love, war, and the chase, are the favourite themes. They include a paraphrase of the Koran, and several works, evidently translated from the Javanese and Arabic, and many in common with the Malayu; also works on judicial astrology, and collections of institutions and customs which have all the force of law; and each principal state adopts the practice of duly recording every public event of importance, as it occurs.

JAVA*.

I shall not longer detain you with notices of our neighbours, while so wide and interesting a field attracts attention at home. In Java, and in that range of islands which modern geographers have classed under the denomination of the Sunda Islands, I have hitherto refrained from noticing the extensive traces of antiquity, foreign intercourse, and national greatness, which are exhibited in the numerous monuments of a former worship, in the ruins of dilapidated cities, and in the character, the institutions, the language, and the literature of the people, from the hope that abler pens would have attempted a more correct sketch than either my humble abilities or limited information enable me to contemplate or embrace. The subject is so extensive, so new, so highly interesting, that I must claim your indulgence, if, in aiming at conciseness in representing the appearances and facts which have most forcibly struck my attention, many still more important particulars pass unnoticed.

On the peculiar province of Dr. Horsefield, to whom I am indebted for whatever information I possess on the natural history of the island, I shall not further trespass, than by adverting to the extensive and almost endless variety which these regions present in every branch of his pursuits. One observation, however, as connected with the earlier history of Java, in explaining the high fertility of its soil in comparison with that of the Malayan peninsula and Sumatra, may deserve notice in this place. From the result of every investigation yet made, the geological constitution of Java appears to be exclusively volcanic, without any admixture whatever of the primitive or secondary mountains of the Asiatic continent; while, on the contrary, Sumatra, with Banca, as before noticed, appear to be a continuation and termination of the immense chain of mountains which pervades great part of Asia, and runs off finally in a direction north-west to south-east. Java deviates from the direction of Sumatra and the peninsula of Malacca, in striking off directly west and east. In this direction it is followed by the larger of the adjacent islands of Bali, Lombok, Sumbawa, Endi, and Timor; and by many smaller, which contribute to constitute an extensive series. This direction, as well as the constitution of all the islands enumerated, indicates the existence of an extensive volcanic chasm in this part of the globe, running, for many degrees, almost parallel with the equator. The consequences of Java's being exclusively volcanic are, that while Sumatra abounds in metals, Java, generally speaking, is destitute of them;* that, while in Suma-

* Java is washed on the south and east by the Indian Ocean. To the north-west lies the island of Sumatra; to the north, Borneo; to the north-east, Celebes; and to the east it is separated by two narrow straits, from the islands of Madura and Bali. In length it may be estimated at six hundred miles, by ninety-five in average breadth. The arm of the sea, stretching between Java and Sumatra, is known by the appellation of the Straits of Sunda.—*Edit.*

* All the indications yet discovered confirm the assertion that the constitution of Java is unfavourable to metals. The only notice as to the existence of gold or silver is contained in the first volume of the Transactions of the Society; and the attempts on *Gunung Parang* in 1723, and on the *Mégé Mendung* in 1744, were soon abandoned.

tra there are many extensive tracts, sterile, and unfavourable to vegetation, Java, with few exceptions, is covered with a soil in the highest degree fertile, luxuriant, and productive of every species of vegetation.

Referring to the ample details of the mineralogy of Java, which the scientific and persevering exertions of Dr. Horsefield have enabled us to include in our present volume, I shall, on this branch of our pursuits, only observe, that catalogues and collections of the varieties in the mineral, vegetable, and animal kingdoms, as they have been found to exist on Java, have been formed by this gentleman, who is at present engaged in exploring the districts lying to the east and south of Suracarta, with the view of completing materials for the natural history of Java. His *Flora Javana* is already far advanced. The geography of plants is a subject to which he has particularly directed his researches. From the extensive range of the thermometer between the high and the low lands, Java presents to the botanist, at the least, six distinct associations of plants or floras, indigenous to as many climates, defined by their comparative elevation above the level of the sea.*

Iron pyrites is found in small quantities in several districts, as well as red ochre, which, however, often contains so little iron as scarcely to serve for the common purpose of a paint. The existence of mercury in the low lands of Damak, where it is distributed in minute particles through the clay of the rice-grounds bounding one of the principal rivers in that district, cannot be considered as an indication of a mine or ores of that metal.

* The height of the principal mountains in Java is estimated at from seven to eight thousand feet above the level of the sea. Several of them have been ascended, and measures are now in progress for ascertaining the elevation with some degree of accuracy. Lieut. Heyland, who has several times ascended Sindoro, observes, "that on reaching the summit on the 20th May, 1813, the sun had set, and the thermometer of Fahrenheit stood at 36. During the night, the thermometer varied between 36 and 44, and, as the day broke on the morning of the 21st, it was at 36. A second thermometer at 30. He immediately proceeded to the lake, and found it covered with ice of about double the thickness of two Spanish dollars. A piece of double this thickness, found some distance from the edge on the same lake, induced a belief that it had remained unthawed on the day preceding, and had now received the addition of a second night's frost. The water in the soup-plates, which had been used as hot-water plates the evening before, was completely frozen through, and the ice the thickness of an inch." On another excursion, in October, 1814, the thermometers fell to 36 and 38; and ice formed on them after they had been immersed in water and exposed to the air.

If, to the naturalist, Java exhibits these extensive and wonderful varieties, to the antiquary, the philologist and the philosopher, she offers, in like manner, subjects of equal novelty, and even of higher interest; whether we investigate the splendid remains of her temples and her cities, her languages and her literature; or the character, institutions and customs of her inhabitants.

To attempt any satisfactory description of the various monuments of antiquity, and of a former worship, which are to be found in almost every district of the island, would be impracticable on the present occasion; and, with the exception of a few notices, I must content myself with assuring you, that however deficient we may be in scientific information, or in a knowledge of the mythology sacred to which these monuments may have been reared, measures have been taken that a record, to be depended upon for exactness at least, should exist of the actual remains of Hinduism in Java. I am indebted to Captain Baker, who is now actively engaged in these pursuits, for the most accurate sketches of the present appearance of the most important of these ruins, as well as for ground-plans and elevations of the principal temples, with notices of much valuable information which is to be collected of their origin, object, and history.

You are aware that the most splendid of these monuments are to be found at Prambanan, Boro Bodo and Singa Sari. Of the first an interesting description is given in the last volume of our Transactions, by our highly esteemed friend, Colonel Mackenzie. Circumstances have since admitted of a more minute investigation; and our information, as far as regards their present state, is much more complete. These extensive ruins lay claim to the highest antiquity; and, considering the vicinity of the temples to have been the seat of the earliest monarchy in Java, I may be permitted, in the words of Captain Baker, to lament the contrast of the present times, with "times long since past." "Nothing," he observes, "can exceed the air of melancholy, desolation, and ruin, which this spot presents; and the

feelings of every visitor must be forcibly in unison with the scene of surrounding devastation, when he reflects upon the origin of this once venerated, hallowed spot; the seat and proof of the perfection of arts now no longer in existence in Java; the type and emblem of a religion no longer acknowledged, and scarcely known among them by name: when he reflects upon that boundless profusion of active, unwearied skill and patience, the noble spirit of generous emulation, the patronage and encouragement which the arts and sciences must have received, and the inexhaustible wealth and resources which the Javanese of those times must have possessed!"

In attempting to describe the Chandi Sewo, or Thousand Temples, which form a principal part of these ruins, he laments his inability to convey any adequate ideas, satisfactory to his own mind, even of the actual dismantled state of this splendid seat of magnificence and of the arts.—"Never," he observes, "have I met with such stupendous, laborious and finished specimens of human labour, and of the polished, refined taste of ages long since forgot, and crowded together in so small a compass, as characterize and are manifested in this little spot; and, though, I doubt not, there are some remains of antiquity in other parts of the globe more worthy the eye of the traveller, or the pencil of the artist, yet Chandi Sewo must ever rank with the foremost in the attractions of curiosity, or of antiquarian research."

I have preferred giving you the words of Captain Baker, while the subject was fully impressed on his mind, and while in the midst of the objects which he contemplated:—there is a feeling excited at such a moment that gives a colouring to the picture, and which is weakened in the faded tints of a more distant view.

Next to Prambanan, the ruins of Boro Bodo may be ranked as remarkable for grandeur in design, peculiarity of style, and exquisite workmanship. This temple is in the district of Boro, under the residency of the Kadu, whence I presume it takes its name; *Bodo* being either a term of contempt, cast upon it by the Mahometans, or erroneously so pronounced, instead of *Bud'ho*—which, in its general acceptation, in the Javanese language, is synonimous with ancient, or heathen. It is built so as to crown the upper part of a small hill, the suumit terminating in a dome. The building is square, and is composed of seven terraces rising one above the other, each of which is enclosed by stone walls; the ascent to the different terraces being by four flights of steps, leading from four principal entrances, one on each side of the square. On the top are several small latticed domes, the upper part terminating in one of a larger circumference. In separate niches, or rather temples, at equal distances, formed in the walls of the several terraces, are contained upward of three hundred stone images of *devotees*, in a sitting posture, and being each above three feet high. Similar images are within the domes above; and in compartments in the walls, both within and without, are carved in relief, and in the most correct and beautiful style, groupes of figures, containing historical scenes and mythological ceremonies, supposed to be representations of a principal part, either of the Ramayan or Mahabrat. The figures and costume are evidently Indian; and we are at a loss whether most to admire the extent and grandeur of the whole construction, or the beauty, richness and correctness of the sculpture.

The name, and resemblance of the images which surround this temple to the figure of Budha, has induced an opinion that it was exclusively confined to the worship of that deity; but it should be noticed, that in the immediate vicinity of this large temple, and evidently connected with it, are the remains of several smaller temples, constructed much after the fashion of the temples at Prambanan, and containing a variety of sculptures and images of the Brahminical worship. A large but mutilated stone figure of Brahma was found in a field hard by; and as there are images similarly resembling Budha to be found at Prambanan, it would seem, that if they are ascertained to represent that deity, these buildings must have been erected at a period when the worship was not separated.

Although the general design of this temple differs from those at Prambanan, a similar style of sculpture and decoration is observable; and the same may be also traced in the ruins at Singa Sari, situated in the Residency of Pasaruan, where are still to be found

images of Brahma, Mahadewa, Ganesa, the Bull Nandi, and others, of the most exquisite workmanship, and in a still higher degree of preservation than any remaining at Prambanan or Boro Bodo.

One of the most extraordinary monuments in this quarter, however, is an immense colossal statue of a man resting on his hams, of the same character as the *porters* at Prambanan, lying on its face, and adjacent to a terrace, on which it was originally placed. This statue measures in length about twelve feet, breadth between the shoulders nine feet and a half, and at the base nine feet and a half, with corresponding dimensions in girth, cut from one solid stone. The statue seems evidently to have fallen from the adjacent elevated terrace; although it is difficult to reconcile the probability of its having been elevated to such a station, with reference to any traces we now have of the knowledge of mechanics by the Javanese. To have raised it by dint of mere manual labour would appear, at the present day, an Herculean task. The terrace is about eighteen feet high. A second figure, of the same dimensions, has since been discovered in the vicinity of the above; and, when the forest shall be cleared, some traces of the large temple to which they formed the approach may probably be found. Not far from Singa Sari, which was once the seat of empire, and in the district of Malang, are several interesting ruins of temples, of similar construction, and of the same style of ornament.

These buildings must have been raised at a period when the highest state of the arts existed, and constructed at no very distant date from each other. Considered in this view, they serve very forcibly and decidedly to corroborate the historical details of the country, which are found to exist in the different written compositions and dramatic entertainments.

In noticing the more prominent remains of antiquity, as they are to be traced from the architecture and sculpture of former days, I should be wanting in attention, and indeed in a due respect to the popular tradition and the still received opinion of the Javans, did I not speak of *Gunung Prahu*, a mountain, or rather a range of mountains, (for there are no less than twenty-nine points or summits, which have distinct names,) situated on the northern side of the island, and inland between Samarang and Pacalongan, the supposed residence of Arjuno, and of the demi-gods and heroes who distinguished themselves in the B'rata Yud'ha, or Holy War. Here, the ruins of the supposed palace of the chief—the abode of Bima, his followers and attendants, are exhibited; and so rich was once this spot, in relics of antiquity, that the village of Kali Babar, situated at the foot of the mountain, is stated to have paid its rents, from time immemorial, in gold melted down from the golden images here discovered. So great, indeed, has been the desire to meet the *courtly thirst* for these interesting relics, that, I regret to say, many of the buildings, composed of a material less in demand, have suffered premature dilapidation on this account. Several interesting remains have recently been discovered by Major Johnson, resident at the Court of the Susunan; and, among these, the ruins at Suku deserve particular notice. But I have already trespassed on a subject which it is impossible to treat well, except in detail, and with reference to drawings of the extensive variety of erections, edifices, images, and poetical creations, which abound in Java.

As connected with these early and splendid monuments of the former high state of the arts in Java, and illustrative of the history of the country, are to be noticed the great variety of inscriptions found in different parts of the island. Fac-similies of most of these have been taken; and I am happy to add, that we have succeeded in decyphering some of the most interesting. The character on the stone found at Prambanan is no doubt one of the Dewa Nagri characters of India; and, with the exception of a few characters discovered at Singa Sari, on the backs of stone images, the only specimen yet discovered of this peculiar formation.

From the vicinity of the former kingdom of Jong'golo, not far distant from the modern Surabaia, have been brought several large stones, of the shape of English tombstones, covered with inscriptions in the ancient Javanese character, and in the *Kawi* language; translations

(or rather paraphrases, for they principally contain prayers and invocations to the Deity, in a language the meaning of a few words only of which are retained, while the idiom and grammatical construction has long been lost,) have been made, and will be found in the pages of our Transactions. It has fallen to my lot to succeed, not only in decyphering the MSS recently discovered in Cheribon, but also the inscriptions on the copper plates so long deposited among the records of our society as unintelligible; the results will be communicated to the society in another form, and the subject will be more particularly adverted to, when speaking of the languages and literature.

These inscriptions, which, in general, contain dates, are of the first importance in enabling us to trace the source whence the language and literature may have flowed, and to satisfy our minds of the prevailing worship at any particular period. It is only by an assemblage of as many data as can be collected, from this source, from the remains of the arts, from the language, literature, and institutions of the people of the present day, compared with the best information we can procure of other countries of the East, which may have been civilized at an earlier period, that we can come at any fair and just result. The question is too extensive, too important to be lightly treated, or to be decided upon from any pre-conceived opinion or partial views.

Did not other striking and obvious proofs exist of the claims of Java to be considered at one period far advanced in civilization, it might be sufficient to bring forward the perfection of the language, the accession which that language must in early times have received from a distant but highly cultivated source, and the copiousness for which it stands so peculiarly and justly distinguished.

In the island of Java, two general languages may be considered as prevalent. The Sunda language, which prevails in the western, and the Javanese, which is the language of the districts east of Cheribon. The first is a simple dialect accommodated to all the purposes of the mountainous classes who speak it, and perhaps differs from the Javanese, not so much in its construction, as in the portion of original and of Malayan words which it contains. One-fourth of the language, at the least, may be considered to be the same as the Javanese; another fourth is perhaps original; and the remaining half Malayan. At what period this extensive portion of the Malayan was adopted, or whether any part or the whole of this portion may not originally have formed the common language of this part of the country, is yet to be decided. In the Javanese, or language of the eastern division of the island, and also of the lower parts of Bantam and Cheribon, the natural or vernacular language in like manner contains a considerable number of words in common with the Malayan, and the general principles of construction are found to have a striking accordance. We thus find strong proofs in support of one common origin of the prevailing languages of the Archipelago, notwithstanding that a large portion of the Malayan words now used in Java may be ascertained to have been received at a comparatively recent date, and in the course of long and continued intercourse with the neighbouring countries.

The Javanese language, properly so called, is distinguished by a division between what may he considered as the vernacular language of the country, used by the common people among themselves, and which is adopted when addressing an inferior, and what may be considered as a second or court language, adopted by all inferiors when addressing a superior. The same construction, as well as the idiom of the language, is, I believe, pretty generally preserved in both the languages; the latter, however, consists of a more extensive class of foreign words which would appear to have been picked and culled for the purpose. Where different words have not been found from the common language of the country, an arbitrary variation in the sound of the word belonging to the common language is adopted, as in changig the word *progo* into *pragi*, *dadi* into *dados*, *Jawa* into *Jawi*, &c. and, the more effectually to render the polite language distinct, not only are the affirmatives and negatives, as well as the pronouns and prepositions varied, but the auxiliary verbs and particles are in general different.

So effectually, indeed, does this arbitrary distinction prevail, that in the most common occurrences and expres-

sions, the language that would be used by a superior bears not the slightest resemblance to what, with the same object, would be used by an inferior. Thus when a superior would say to an inferior "You have been sick a very long time" he would in the common or vernacular language use the words "*Lawas teman goni loro*" while an inferior, using the court language would to the same purport, say "*Lami leras genipun sakit.*" If the former would ask the question "is your child a boy or a girl?" he would use the words, "*Anak kiro wadon opo lanang?*" but the latter would express himself, "*Putro hijang'an diko, estri punopo?*" Again, would the former observe "That the people of Java, both men and women, like to preserve the hair of the head," he would say "*Wongpulu Jawa lanang wadon podo ng'ing'u rambut*;" while the latter would use the words, "*Tetiang heng nusa Jawi estri jalar sami ng ing a remo*, &c."

It is not, however, to be supposed that these languages are so separated that the one is studied and attained exclusively of the other; for, while one is the language of address, the other must be that of reply; and the knowledge of both is indispensible to those who have occasion to communicate with persons of a different rank from themselves. In the polite language, Kawi words are frequently introduced by the party, either to show his reading, or evince a higher mark of respect. The Kawi however, is, more properly a dead language, the language of literary compositions of the higher class; and is, to the Javanese, what the Sanscrit is to the languages of Hindustan, and the Pali to the Birman and Siamese: how far it may assimilate to either, must remain to be decided by more accurate comparison and observation, than we have yet had opportunity to make. It is in this language that the more ancient and celebrated of the literary performances of the country are written; and it is probable that it will be found, that while the general language of Java possesses, in common with all the more cultivated languages of the archipelago, a considerable portion of Sanscrit terms, the court-language is still more replete with them; and that the Kawi, and particularly that which is reckoned most ancient, and which is decyphered from inscriptions on stone and copper-plates, is almost pure Sanscrit. The construction and idiom in these inscriptions is no longer comprehended by the Javanese, and there are but few whose intelligence, and acquaintance with the terms used, enables them to give even a faint notion of their meaning. Examples of these languages, taken from the B'rata Yud'ha, and from some of the inscriptions alluded to, will appear in the new volume of our Transactions.

To facilitate the acquirement of a language in its nature so extensive and varied as that of the Javanese, a method is adopted similar to what I understand is known in India, of classing the synonyms in such a manner as to connect them in the memory, by stringing them in classes, according to the natural chain of our ideas; the collection or vocabulary so composed is termed *doso nomo*, literally *ten names*, and in point of fact there are but few words in the language which have not at least so many synonyms.—An example of this mode of instruction and of assisting the memory is also included in our volume as illustrative, not only of the method alluded to, but of the great delicacy and variety of the language.

I am happy to report that very extensive vocabularies, not only of both divisions of the Javanese, including the Kawi, but of the Sunda, and of the dialects of Madura and Bali, with notices of the varieties in particular districts and mountain-tribes, have been collected and that whenever our more intimate acquaintance with the written compositions of the country may afford the test of some experience in aid of what has already been done, the grand work of a grammar and dictionary may be accomplished. This has long been our first and grand desideratum.*

In both the Sunda and Javanese languages the same written character is in use; and it has not yet been traced whether the former ever had a separate writ-

* Considerable progress has been made since our last meeting in the acquirement of the Javanese language. The Rev. Mr. Trout, in particular, is prosecuting his studies at Samarang with great success, and arrangements are in progress for procuring from Bengal a fount of Javanese types.

ten character or not; at a place, however, called Batu Tulis, on the site of the ancient capital of Pajajaran, is preserved an inscription on stone in very rude characters; and several similar inscriptions in the same character have been recently discovered at Kwali in Cheribon, where some of the descendants of the princes of Pajajaran took refuge. This character, till lately appeared widely different from any other yet noticed in Java, but is now found to contain some of the letters and vowel marks in common with the Javanese. The date inscribed on the stone at Batu Tulis has fortunately been decyphered, and the character was doubtlessly used by the Sunda people at the period of the destruction of the western government of Pajajaran.

No less than seven different characters are represented to have been in use at different periods of Javanese history; and although those at present adopted appear at first sight to be very different from the more ancient, yet, on examination, the one may without much difficulty be traced to the other, by observing the gradual alterations made from time to time. Specimens of these different characters, with the periods in which they were respectively used, are submitted to the inspection of the Society; and I regret that the absence of an engraver precludes them from appearing in the volume of our transactions.

The literature of Java, however much it may have declined in latter days, must be still considered as respectable. The more ancient historical compositions are mostly written in the Kawi language, to which frequently the meaning of each word, and a paraphrase of the whole in Javanese, is annexed. Of these compositions those most highly esteemed are the B'rata Yud'ha or Holy War, and a volume entitled Romo or Rama, the former descriptive of the exploits of Arjuno, and the principal heroes whose fame is recorded in the celebrated Indian poem of the Mahabarat, the latter of those who are distinguished in the Ramayan. These poems are held by the Javanese of the present day in about the same estimation as the Iliad and Odyssey of Homer are by Europeans. Until translations are made, and can be compared with the more extensive works in India, it would be premature to form any judgment on their relative excellence. The B'rata Yud'ha is contained in about two hundred verses; but, in rendering the Kawi into Javanese, it is found necessary, in order to convey any thing like the meaning, to render one line of Kawi into at least three of the modern Javanese. I should not omit to mention that the belief is general among the Javanese, that the scene of this celebrated romance is on Java. They point out the different countries which are referred to, such as Hastina, Wirata, and others in different districts of the island, which have since assumed more modern names; and the supposed mansion of Arjuno, as before noticed, is still traced upon Gunung Prahu.

These works, in common with almost every composition in the language, are composed in regularly measured verses; and, as far as we can judge, from the partial translations which have been made from them, through the medium of the Javanese, they do credit to the power of the language and the genius of the poet.

Historical compositions are divided into two general classes, termed Pakam and Babat; under the former are considered the Romo and B'rata Yud'ha; the institutions and regulations for princes and the officers of state and law, entitled Kopo Kopo, Jogol Muda and Kontoro; works on astronomy and judicial astrology, termed Wuku; and works on moral conduct, regulations and ancient institutions, termed Niti Sastro and Niti Projo. Under the *Babat* are classed chronological, and other works on modern history, since the establishment of the empire of Mataram.

There are in use, for ordinary and popular compositions, five different kinds of regular measured stanzas, termed Tembang, adapted to the subject treated of, whether heroic, amorous, or otherwise; these are termed *Asmoron Dono, Dandang Gula, Sinom, Durmo* and *Pankgur*. In the higher compositions, and particularly in the Kawi, these measures are still more varied, and in number upward of twenty, twelve of which correspond in name with the stanzas used in the poetry of continental India.

In repeating these compositions, they are chaunted, or rather drawled out, in regular metre, according to rules laid

down for the long and short syllables. Dramatic representations of various kinds form the constant recreation of the higher classes of society, and the most polished amusement of the country. These consist of the Wayang Kulit or scenic shadows, in which the several heroes of the drama, represented in a diminutive size, are made to perform their entrances and exits behind a transparent curtain. The subjects of these representations are taken either from the more ancient works of the B'rata Yud'ha or Romo, and then denominated Wayang Purwo, or from the history of Panji, the most renowned hero of Java story, and then termed Wayang Gedog. The Wayang Wong, in which men personify the heroes of the B'rata Yud'ha and Romo, is also termed Wayang Purwo. They have also the Topeng, in which men wearing masks, personify those immortalized in the history of Panji; and the Wayang Klitik or Koritchil, not unlike a puppet-shew in Europe, in which diminute wooden figures personify the heroes of Majapahit.

These dramatic exhibitions are accompanied by performances on the Gamelan, or musical instruments of the Javanese, of which there are several distinct sets; the Salindro, which, accompanies the performances from the B'rata Yud'ha and Romo, as well as the Topeng; the Pelog which accompanies the Wayang Gedog; the *Kodok Ngokek, Chara Bali, Senenan* and others. The Javanese music is peculiarly harmonious, but the gamut is imperfect.

Whatever portion of astronomical science may have in former times been communicated to Java, the people of the present day have no pretensions to distinction on this account. It is true they possess the signs of the zodiac, and still preserve a mode of calculating the seasons, the principles of which must have been discovered by a people well acquainted with the motions of the heavenly bodies. They also possess several works on judicial astrology; but in this they follow only what is laid down for them in the few pages of a book almost illegible, and in the traditions of the country.*

(To be concluded next month.)

* The signs of the zodiac, as represented in the ancient MS. discovered at Telaga in Cheribon, compared with the Indian zodiac, are as follows: the figures being very correctly drawn, and the names with the explanation annexed to each;—

Indian.	*Javanese MS.*
Mesha—the Ram	Misa.
Vrisha—the Bull	M'risa.
Mithuna—the Pair	M'ri Kogo (a butterfly.)
Carcata—the Crab	Calicata.
Sinha—the Lion	Singha.
Cunya—the Virgin . . .	Canya.
Tula—the Balance . . .	Tula.
Vrishchica--the Scorpion	Privita.
Danus—the Bow	Wanu.
Macara- the Sea Monster	Macara (Crawfish.)
Cumbha -the Water Jug	Cuba.
Mina—the Fish	Ména.

ASIATIC FRAGMENTS, ANECDOTES, &c.

(No. IV.)

HINDOO CHARACTER AND POETRY.*

I BELIEVE there is no language now spoken, either in Europe or Asia, that would better bear a literal translation into English, than the Hindee. Of the difficulty of rendering Persian compositions, whether prose or verse, into our own language, they who have made the experiment, will bear ample testimony. It is not however in this respect alone that the Hindee differs from most other of the languages of Asia: like them all, it abounds in allegory and metaphor; but not to that licentious degree which is at once the glory and the disease of Persian poesy. We meet in it with those luxuriant figures which are the peculiar decorations of Oriental composition, but they are seldom disgraced by tame or vulgar similies; nor are the most beautiful thoughts ever inflated into hyperbole, or debased by an admixture of the most crude and homely elucidations.

In their descriptions of female charms, the images of the Hindoo poets are invariably taken from nature; consequently are seldom extravagant, and they are always calculated to raise in the mind the sweet ideas of tenderness and delicacy. The Hindoo nymph is lovely, but her charms are never heightened by that kind of bacchanalian tint which glows in the

* From the Preface to Broughton's Popular Poetry of the Hindoos.

attractions of the Persian beauty. With the one we sigh to repose among shady bowers, or wander by the side of cooling streams; to weave chaplets of the Lotus, or the jessamine for her hair; and even fancy ourselves enamoured of one of the legitimate shepherdesses of our pastoral poetry. With the other, we burn to share the luxurious pleasures of the banquet; to celebrate her eyes in anacreontic measures; or toast her jetty ringlets in bowls of liquid ruby. Our heated imagination pourtrays a Phryne or a Lais, and we picture to ourselves the wanton attractions of a Grecian or Roman courtezan. Love is equally the ruling passion of both, but it is of different kinds; that of the Hindoo is evident, yet tender; that of the Persian voluptuous and intoxicating. Nor is the character of their lovers less distinctly marked; the passion of the Hindoo youth is breathed for his mistress only; while that of the Persian is equally excited by wine and music, by roses and nightingales, as by all the blandishments of his "sugar'd" charmer.

If we were to indulge our fancy in pourtraying the characters of the ancient Hindoos from these specimens of their popular poetry, how amiable would they appear! Gentle, simple in their manners, alive to strong impressions; and peculiarly susceptible of the tender passion. And if due allowance be made for the difference between poetical delineation, and the fainter lines of real life, I do not know that the picture would be so highly coloured as not to bear some resemblance to their descendants of the present day; especially when unsophisticated by an admixture of foreign manners. They still speak the language of poetry and love, though expressed in a dialect that is perfectly rustic. To what is this to be ascribed? Not to the peculiar structure of the language itself, for it consists mostly of short expressive words composed of consonants; and abounds more in monosyllables, with the exception perhaps of the Chinese, than any language with which I am acquainted. Neither can it be attributed to the polish of education or society; for I have generally observed, that those Hindoos express themselves most elegantly and metaphorically, who are born in villages most remote from large towns, and the resorts of Europeans or Moosulmuns. I once heard a young Brahmun, about fifteen years of age, who had not quitted his native village, in a distant part of Oude, above four months, interrogated by another, why he was so late in returning to camp? He had been at a Mela or fair, held in the neighbourhood of Gwaliur, at which all the women of the city, young as well as old, appeared without reserve: and when he heard the question, "Oh!" cried he, in his Doric tongue, while an expression of pleasure sparkled in his fine hazel eyes, "*Buhar ko lootut ruha*;" "I've been plundering the spring!" Another time, when I had reprimanded a lad, about the same age, for calling a respectable elderly man old, who was very ambitious of appearing young, "Why," said he, "his whiskers are like *peoore*"—threads of fresh spun cotton. May I venture upon another instance? it relates to my young favourite who "plundered the spring;" and will serve to show, that these interesting people are not merely metaphorical, but actually possessed of the most tender and amiable feelings. His uncle, at whose request he had been brought to camp, was a Sipahee of some standing in the corps I commanded, but notorious for using, upon every occasion, the grossest abuse: an insult offensive beyond any other, to all ranks of Hindoos. The boy had long submitted in silence to this, and other harsh treatment of his relation; till, at length, upon the representation of a native officer, I directed that he should be removed to another company, and not allowed to associate with him upon any account; an arrangement at which the other affected to be exceedingly offended. Soon after, the uncle received a wound which incapacitated him for service; and he was transferred to the invalid establishment. Previous however to his quitting camp, the lad came to me and entreated me to use my influence to reconcile him to his uncle; and that they might not part in anger. I sent for him directly; and upon his entering the tent, Arjoon, the boy's name, fell at his feet. The uncle, however, remained for some moments sullen and unmoved; till at length, upon my upbraiding him for his harshness and insensibility, he put his hand gently upon the boy's head; who, when he felt this little act of kindness, sprang up, threw his arms around his neck, and gave vent to his feelings in sobs, that seemed to

burst from his heart. This was too much even for the stoicism of the uncle, who then pressed him affectionately to his bosom, and exclaiming, "'tis my brother's child," bursts into tears himself. I do not remember that I was ever more sensibly affected.

If it is not then to the structure of their language, nor to the refinements of education, that this delicacy of ideas and language is to be ascribed, may we not suppose that the genial warmth of the climate, and universal luxuriance of nature, unite to produce a physical tenderness and susceptibility in the various organs of sense, and thus render the nerves on which they act, more "tremblingly alive all o'er," than our hardier and more rigid climate?

I am aware that these opinions of the Hindoos will find but little credit with the generality of my countrymen in India; who will be apt to regard them as the visionary offspring of prejudice and romance. With them there are but two, though very distinct, opinions upon this subject; one party regarding the inhabitants, manners, productions, &c. of India, when compared with those of Europe, as utterly unworthy of notice; while their opponents, fewer indeed in numbers, but equally *strong in argument*, give to every thing in the East a preference, as decided and probably as unjust. To profess impartiality, and to be only laughed at for the profession, is so common, that however sincerely I may believe myself endued with so rare a quality, I should get but little credit by avowing it. Let me therefore endeavour to secure the favour at least of one of the contending parties, by avowing a predilection for the simple character and manners of the unsophisticated Hindoo. I can admire the superior genius of Europe displayed in laws, commerce, literature, and all the arts and sciences which tend to the refinement of human life; as well as her stouter nerve, and loftier courage, evinced in many splendid and glorious conquests: yet I am inclined to believe, that the consequences of this superiority, the long train of multiplied wants, increasing luxury, vicious habits, political corruption, religious scepticism, &c. &c. are not quite counterbalances to that moderate state of happiness, which a people who are far advanced in all the arts of civilization, yet still remain some steps below perfection, may be supposed to possess: an happiness less brilliant and less glorious perhaps, but at the same time more tranquil and diffused, and less liable to be overthrown. Such a state of public happiness I imagine the Hindoos to have enjoyed under the government of their ancient princes. The laws of Brimha, believed to be of divine origin, were obeyed without cavils or murmurs; and though like all other productions of human understanding, they doubtless contain many imperfections and errors; they may nevertheless boldly challenge the praise of great wisdom: and the merit of being admirably adapted to the genius of the people for whose guidance they were intended, and the climate in which they were to be exercised. By what has been termed "the unnatural division of the people into castes," they at least put a powerful check upon domestic ambition; with the crimes and miseries which too often attend upon that unruly passion: while we have ample proof that emulation was not extinguished in the honours which we know were paid to men distinguished in any branch of science, and the beautiful specimens of art and manufacture, which are still to be found in every part of this immense empire.

POETRY.

DIRGE
On the Death of the Poet
HAFIZ. (*a*)

IN those fam'd bow'rs let fancy stray,
Of *Shiraz* and of *Mosellay*,
Where *Hafiz* once in vernal grove
Pour'd forth his minstrel strains of love,

(*a*) This dirge supposes the *European* reader already acquainted with some of the celebrated poems of *Hafiz*, that have been versified in our language by Sir William Jones, Nott, Hindley, and others, more especially with the *Gazel* of the "*Maid of Shiraz*," that of the "*Belle Idol*," and that of "*Ask me not*," &c. &c. all or most of which may be found in *Hindley's* versions, as well as some interesting particulars in the introduc-

And made the wanton spring more gay
With fascination's frenzied lay,
Soft chanting to the scented gale
Songs of the rose and nightingale.

But ah! no more the echoed sound
Dwells in the breeze and floats around;
No more sweet music's charms beguile,
Nor sportive laugh, nor dimpled smile;
No more the luscious cup invites
With darling pleasure's warm delights;
In vain the rose displays her bloom,
Hafiz is gone, and all is gloom:
In vain her fragrant stores are shed,
Hafiz is gone, and joy is fled:
In vain her warbler's notes we hear,
Hafiz is gone, and all is drear.

Theme of thy bard, lov'd *Rocnabad*, (*b*)
Ah! ask me not, who now is sad:
Whose banks, what crystal stream, what grot,
Grief, are thy haunts, O ask me not:
Nor ask *Mosella*, (*c*) now forlorn,
Who from his fav'rite bow'rs is torn,

Why name *Bokhara*, *Samarcand*, (*d*)
Or all the treasures they command?
These, these, and more would *Shiraz* give,
Could but her native poet live.
Then, beauty, bid thy soul to take
His lays, and love them for his sake,
To him be worship daily paid
For ever thy *Bel Idol* made; (*e*)
An emblem of his love for thee
The mole upon thy cheek (*f*) shall be,
To which he sung, charm'd by the spell,
As to the rose does philomel.

Speak not of pastimes, frolic, mirth,
That, *Nuruz*-like, (*g*) to love give birth,
Of am'rous rapine, syren wiles,
Art's tempting looks, insidious smiles,
Of plund'rers, whose once prowling eyes
Glanc'd, like a Tartar's, at their prize,
Some wound inflicting or some smart,
That stole, but ask me not, whose heart. (*h*)

Ah! gay coquettes, grief now disarms
The fairy magic of those charms,
Nor moles, nor ringlets can delight,
Which lur'd before the ravish'd sight.
One joyless scene now all appears,
Where sorrow mingles tears with tears.
Weep, *Shiraz*, with *Mosella* weep!
Where shall the virgin's eye find sleep?
No love-lorn vot'ries now adore,
Hafiz is gone, and love's no more.
Your groves a lawless hoard infests,
Hafiz is gone, and thieves are guests. (*i*)
Ah! thou *Belle Idol*, (*j*) once divine,
Hafiz is gone, and where's thy shrine?

Yet spare the cypress (*k*) round that bust,
Hafiz sleeps there, awe guards his dust.
Curst be the hand, thou ruffian train,
Which dares the hallow'd spot profane;
And curst the sov'reign of that land,
Who saves the sacrilegious hand!
But oh! unthink the fancied thought!
The deed remains, thank heav'n, unwrought.
Then, blush not, thou yet brilliant gem,
To grace the Monarch's diadem,
Benignant as the star of day
Still shed thy tutelary ray:
Around, ye moon-beams, vigils keep,
Till light-aw'd darkness learns to weep:
Ye friendly Zephirs, that pass by,
O leave a tributary sigh!
Ye virgin pilgrims, off'rings bring,
Due to his lyre's once love-smit string:
And, O thou rose-charm'd nightingale,
With dirges swell the mournful gale:
Fair cypress, round the poet bloom,
Thou vestal guardian of his tomb,
Dwell with the bard, whose lyric fire,

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tion to that work, (Notes, p. 11, 21, 22, and p. 34, 43, 50.) connected with the local and general history of the bard. Through the whole of this elegy, the *Hafizian style* has been imitated, as will more particularly be seen in the *repetitions*, so common in the *Persian* poetry.

(*b*) See the Gazel of the *Maid of Shiraz*.

(*c*) See Introduction to Hindley's Versifications of Hafiz, Notes, page 21.

(*d*) See Gazel of the *Maid of Shiraz*.

(*e*) See the *Belle Idol* Gazel.

(*f*) See the *mole*, alluded to here, in the *Maid of Shiraz* Gazel.

(*g*) Herbert tells us, that "at the *Nuruz* or *Spring*, they send vests to each other; that then also the gardens are opened for all to walk in.—That the women likewise, for fourteen days have liberty to appear in public, who when loose, like birds enfranchised, lose themselves in a labyrinth of wanton sports," &c. &c.—See *Herbert's* Travels, p. 139.

(*h*) See Shiraz Gazel.

(*i*) The venerable monuments of ill-fated Persia, as in the days of *Sadi*, remain still a prey to the armies of contending chieftains, or the temporary and casual abode of rapine and faction; that wretched country, in the words of the poet, being yet thick *entangled with tumult, like the hair of an Ethiop*.

(*j*) See the *Belle Idol* Gazel, where Hafiz addresses his mistress under the deified character of one of the *Divinities* of the temple, to whom he pays his amorous adoration.

(*k*) See Captain Franklin's description of the *new* tomb of Hafiz, raised by *Kerim Khan*, shadowed by the poet's *beloved cypress*, and of the fine copy of the *works of Hafiz* continually placed there, as well as Kœmpfer's account of his *old* tomb and *Epitaph*. See also Hindley's Introduction to his versifications, p. 21.

From heav'n first caught, shall ne'er expire:
Dwell with the bard, whose matchless lays
Studded with star-bright beauties blaze:
Dwell with the bard, whose wide-beam'd fame
Spreads a pearl'd halo round his name:
Dwell with the bard, for ever be
As sacred as his poesy. (*l*)
Come, mem'ry, then, around his head
Love's choicest, sweetest incense shed,
Fame, bring thy pen, and let it be,
O, dipt in immortality,
Write, write, record his deathless doom,
And leave this scroll upon his tomb.

EPITAPH. (*m*)

"Within this sainted dome doth lie
"As much perfection as could die,
"Which, when alive, did spirit give
"To as much sweetness as could live:
"Be proud, thou glorious plot of earth,
"Which gave this peerless genius birth;
"When wonder asks,—where did he dwell?
"Let *Shiraz*, let *Mosella* tell."

Verses lately addressed to an amiable young Lady, in a dangerous illness, who desired the Author to write a few Lines in her Poetic Album, previous to her departure for the Country in search of that health which had been lost in Town.

When a mild maid requests, with gentle look,
An humble poet to adorn her book
With some few lines, where rhyme and reason may, [display;
On various forms, their matchless charms
How can the Bard, with a good grace decline
So sweet a task untried, and thus resign
All hope of future favours from the Nine?
No, Frances! he will not thy prayer refuse,
Though long deserted by his faithless muse, [roam,
Who loves on Scotia's plains alone to
And seldom wanders from her native home; [combine
Where rocky shores and kindred hills
With echo's aid to form the swelling line.
In which, mere sound, without the least pretence
To thought, or wit, or even common sense,
Oft cheats the ear and gains ephemeral praise, [strel's lays.
To crown with showers of gold the min-
Though here my flight prove vain, I still shall do
The best I can, like bards of Waterloo,
And fearless die amidst poetic fire,
Rather than leave unstrung this rustic lyre.
Alas! one sombre theme appears in view,
A dreary blank, which all lament for you.
Since worth, content, the purest mines of wealth, [health?
Are, Fanny, thine, why not as rich in
What baleful planet o'er thy frame hath cast [blast!
Its influence fell, thine earthly joys to
This loss of Paradise let me deplore!
Kind heaven may yet that precious gift restore:
And I in grateful notes still higher strained
Shall sing such bliss below for thee regained, [you fly,
By change of air; though now from friends
Their healing wishes are for ever nigh.
In which, though the most tender ties conjoin, [than mine.
They cannot breathe one more sincere
Then go, dear maid! but may you soon retrace [place;
With rosy health thy footsteps to this
Where love parental opes the genial door,
To bid you never wander from it more.
Then should you deign to scan this sober lay, [away.
Give me one thought at least, when far
But never in a fit of critic rage [page.
Tear out these lines, with their offensive
Forgive the weaker head, and, in good part,
Accept the dictates of an honest heart,
Which in its zeal, a prophet fain would be
Of tidings glad to all thy friends and thee.
Fear not thy guardian angel in the sky,
Who ne'er will let thine early seeds thus die;*
Till full of years a nobler seat be given,
To ripened virtue, panting then for heaven;
Where Christians meet, but not to part again;
A faith and hope, to which I say amen!

AMICUS.

Westminster, December 1815.

(*l*) Allusive to the *poems of Hafiz* placed upon his tomb.

(*m*) See the *Epitaph* of Hafiz, Hindley's Introduction, p. 21, Notes, where it is given more at large than in Kœmpfer.

* The kind heart and poetic talents of this young lady acquire an additional lustre when reflected, as they are, from daily acts of benevolence to the children of the virtuous poor in her neighbourhood, whom she not only instructs in the duties of religion and morality, but provides suitable employment for them, as they advance in life, in the respectable families of a numerous acquaintance.

REVIEW OF BOOKS.

Paul's Letters to his Kinsfolk. 8vo. pp. 468. Edinburgh, Constable and Co. 1816. 12s.

PAUL's letters are sixteen in number, and severally addressed to his sister Margaret, his cousin the Major, the Laird, his cousin Peter, and the Minister. "The Major," says Paul, page 5, "shall hear of more and bloodier battles than ever were detailed to Young Norval by his tutor the Hermit. The Laird shall know all I can tell him on the general state of the country. Peter shall be refreshed with politics, and the Minister with polemics." In a word, Paul has left Scotland for Flanders at the very nick of time for adding to the usual gleanings of tourists, a rich harvest of the campaign of 1815, and the battle of Waterloo. Paul also visits Paris; and a portion of the volume, at the same time, is devoted to French and Flemish politics.

This work, concerning which some pains appear to have been taken, that it should be considered as the production of Mr. Walter Scott, is well written, in a light style, and contains an abundance of entertaining materials. Embracing, as it does, so great a number of the topics of modern conversation, the latter merit will be easily credited.

In our cursory survey of its pages, we have been more particularly arrested by the comparison instituted between Scotland and Flanders, in the first letter; the anecdotes of the Duke of Wellington and of Buonaparte respectively, on the day of Waterloo; the author's statements of the barbarities of the French troops; his most just denunciation of the Palais Royal; his picture of the moral state of France, and his discriminating and philosophical estimate of the moral characters of the French and English nations. Leaving these longer passages to be sought for in the work itself, we extract only a short anecdote for the immediate entertainment of our readers. The scene is in France:—

A friend of mine met with an interesting adventure at one of these deserted villages. He had entered the garden of a cottage of somewhat a superior appearance, but which had shared the fate of the rest of the hamlet. As he looked around him, he perceived that he was watched from behind the bushes by two or three children, who ran away as soon as they perceived themselves observed. He called after them, but to no purpose. The sound of the English accent, however, emboldened the mother to show herself from a neighbouring thicket, and at length she took courage to approach him. My friend found, to his surprize, that she understood English well, owing to some accident of her life or education which I have forgotten. She told him her family were just venturing back from their refuge in the woods, where they had remained two days without shelter, and almost without food, to see what havock the spoilers had made in their cottage, when they were again alarmed by the appearance of troops. Being assured that they were English soldiers, she readily agreed to remain, under the confidence which the national character inspired; and having accepted what assistance her visitor had to offer her, as the only acknowledgement, she sent one of her children to pull and present the only rose which her now ruined garden afforded. "It was the last," she said, "she had; and she was happy to bestow it on an Englishman." It is upon occasions such as these, that the French women, even of the lowest class, display a sort of sentimental delicacy, unknown to those of other countries.

We regret to observe in this volume (page 142) the word "civilian" in the sense of "citizen" or "townsman;" a barbarous *Scotticism*, as we suppose, which is at least in general use in our colonies. A *civilian*, we need not add, is a professor of civil law; while the opposition between the terms *soldier* and *citizen*, is never mistaken in England. We have it thus, even in the modern ballad:—

Little thinks the *townsman's* wife,
While at home she tarries,
What must be the lass's life
Who a *soldier* marries.

Symbolic Illustrations of the History of England, from the Roman Invasion to the Present Time; accompanied with a Narrative of Principal Events. Designed more particularly for the Instruction of Young Persons. By Mary Ann Rundall, of Bath; Author of the Grammar of Sacred History. 4to. pp. 680. London: Black, Parbury and Allen. 1815. £2. 2s.

"Objects that are *seen*," says our fair author, in her preface, "make a more lasting impression on the mind than the mere *recital* of facts: it has, therefore, been my aim, in the composition of the symbols or hieroglyphics, to embody, as it were, the most striking incidents recorded in the annals of our country; and as the ingenuity and penetration of the student is exercised in discovering the meaning of the symbolical representation, the fact itself, with all its connecting associations, becomes more forcibly impressed upon the memory. Principles of patriotism may also be excited as powerfully as by words. Who, when he beholds a national banner trampled on by the conqueror, will not exclaim, may such never be the fate of Britain!—or, who, when he beholds a French invading standard supported by a French noble, will not experience a feeling of indignation?"

In the invention of her numerous symbols, Miss R. has displayed no small portion of industry and dexterity. Her narrative is conveyed in language which is written with ease and freedom, and generally correctly. Her book is handsomely printed, and the engravings well executed in their kind; and, on the whole, we doubt not that the publication will always be regarded as a gift of a very superior class, when put into the hands of youth; and that it will be the means of fixing the attention of many an intelligent English pupil, upon the history of the country in which he was born.

On this latter point, however, we speak with some degree of caution; because we are less sanguine than Miss R., as to the success to be hoped for in overcoming the listlessness so commonly observed in young minds, upon the subject of our national history. "It is a fact," says Miss R., "well known to those engaged in the education of youth, that the history of England is considered by their pupils less amusing than any other that is usually put into their hands. Why is this?—" And Miss R., after drawing parallels (not always, as we think, with success), between the incidents of English and of Greek and Roman history, resolves her question, by representing the absence of paintings, for conveying the matters of an history, as the cause of our youthful indifference to it. We do not wholly agree with our author; we grant the value of historical painting under this view; but we cannot allow that the indifference complained of is to be ascribed, either wholly, or in even any great part, to the want of it. Our early indifference to English, and to all modern history, is produced by the small share which it contains of any thing that can feed the imagination, that can take us away from things familiar, and open the door to mental excursion. A fur-

ther development of this position might be misplaced; but we have thought it right to say so much, lest, should the book of Miss R. be found to effect less than this lady appears to anticipate, its possessors might suspect any deficiency in its plan or execution, instead of those real and radical obstacles which it is absolutely impossible to remove. All that can be done is to find what means we can to interest the imagination, in the *too earth-like* story of our country; and this, in truth, is the scope of Miss R's. undertaking, and that which she has certainly done much to accomplish.

Miss R. apprizes us, that the idea of her work was first suggested to her by a figure in Mr. Von Feinaigle's publication on Mnemonics.

The Ardai Viraf Nameh; or, the Revelations of Ardai Viraf. Translated from the Persian and Guzerata Versions. With Notes and Illustrations. By J. A. Pope, 8vo, pp. 123.—London, Black, Parbury and Allen, 1816.

PERSIA has adopted, within record, at least three successive systems of religion; that of the Suppasses or Abadians; that of Zoroaster; and that of Mohammed.

The theology (or mythology) of the Suppasses or Abadians appears to have been no other than that also called Sabian, or the worship of the stars. The Abadians attribute divinity to the planets, to the stars, to all terrestrial bodies, and to light and fire. The system of Zoroaster or Zeratush was no more than a modification of this, accompanied by a reformed and extended moral code. The followers of that prophet speak of two Zoroasters, and profess to be the disciples of the second in order of time. In the fabulous language of superstition, they describe the two Zoroasters as two successive incarnations, at long intervals, of the same person. They were, in reality, two successive religious reformers, the later of whom new modelled the fabric of his predecessor, as the first had new modelled that of the Abadians. By some writers, the first Zoroaster appears to be mentioned under the name of Om. The second is him alone of whom the Parsees or modern worshippers of fire pretend to give a particular account; or, in their own terms, it is of his second appearance only that they speak. The date of that event they place in the reign of Kishtasp or Gushtasp, about the 486th year before the Christian era, and during the time of the Jewish captivity. The reputed father of Zeratush, as we are told by Mr. P., who repeats the verbal and fabulous tradition of the present Parsees, was a modeller or maker of the images worshipped in his time by the Persians. He was without issue, and extremely poor, when, from the uprightness of his life, God was pleased to make choice of him to be the reputed father of the prophet. An angel was accordingly sent to him, who presented him with a glass, which he persuaded him to drink; and, after this, his wife bore him a son.

About this time, a tradition led the Persians to expect a prophet, who should be the founder of a new religion; and as the father of Zeratush had been vain enough to boast of his having received the glass of wine from the angel, the priests or wise men fixed upon his son as the prophet so expected. This coming to the ears of the king, he ordered the infant to be destroyed; but, the attempt being made, the hands that were lifted against him were arrested by divine power. The king was still unconvinced. The infant was then exposed to the fury of wild beasts; but these did him no harm. The king, still unsatisfied of the divine nature of the infant, became more enraged against it, and ordered it to be taken to a narrow

pass in the mountains, where herds of cattle were driven through, in order that it might be trampled to death; but the first cow that came placed itself over the infant, and continued thus to protect it till the whole herd had passed by. It was then thrown, by the king's order, into the midst of flames; but it came out unhurt.

The king, having at length become sensible of the real character of Zeratush, consented that he should live without further molestation; but God now took him up into heaven, where he kept him till he judged the king and the nation to be sufficiently punished for their obstinate impiety, when he sent him down with his laws. The law of Zeratush was adopted with avidity by the whole Persian nation, and known by the name of the Magian, or more properly, the Masdian faith.*

Of the merits of the Avesta, or book of the law of Zeratush, this is not the place to speak. Cleanliness of mind and body forms a distinguished feature of its precepts. It is written in the Zend, one of the ancient dialects of Persia. The number of Sanscrit and Arabic words it contains has brought doubt upon its authenticity. The objection, according to Mr. P. is ill founded. Many Sanscrit words are met with in the Latin and Greek, as also in the Chinese; and all the Tartar (including the Cossack) dialects are full of them.

The Avesta is, of course, as to its machinery, a work of imagination; and its fables abound in bold and often incongruous inventions. Their object was to circulate religious and moral truths; but their contrivance depended upon the genius and critical taste of the author, governed, as the latter necessarily was, by the taste of his age and country. Amid extravagant and even grotesque imagery, they frequently display the noblest and more magnificent turns of thought; and, even where this is not obvious, those familiar with that style of writing, and imbued with faith in the divinity of the text, are at no loss for a worthy interpretation. "Conversing," says Mr. P. "with one of their priests, about the Zend Avesta, I pointed out to him the dialogue between Ormuzd and Zoroaster, as a specimen of great absurdity, to which he agreed. 'But this,' he said, 'must not be taken in a literal sense: this is only meant to impress the necessity of ablution, and bodily cleanliness; and in this sense it is understood by us, and so explained to the people. There are, no doubt, he continued, great incongruities in it; but we suppose it to be the work of our prophet Zeratush.'"

The work before us is a moral and religious romance, built upon the theology and commandments of Zoroaster. "The Ardai Viraf Nameh appears," says the translator, "to be the same work that is mentioned by Richardson as the work of Ardeshir Babegar; which, having been improved by Nashirvan the Just, in the sixth century, was sent by him to all governors of provinces, as the invariable rule of their conduct: and, in the illustration of this passage, he quotes a speech of Ardeshir Babegan, which appears to be taken from the Ardai Viraf."

The plan and substance of the fable will be seen in the following extract:—

"Ardeshir Babegan having settled the Persian monarchy by the conquering of the provinces, and the putting to death of ninety kings, who refused to acknowledge his authority: and being also desirous to establish the national religion in its wonted purity, collected together all the priests, doctors, &c. of the Magian religion, to the amount of forty thousand, and addressed them as follows.

* See other accounts of Zoroaster, and particularly one given by Mahaled and Sedli, &c. page 177.

"The revolution caused by the invasion of Alexander having destroyed the evidences of our holy religion, it is my wish that proper persons be selected from out of your number to collate and collect the laws left us by our prophet Zeratus, that we may follow these laws, and get rid of the heresies that have been from time to time introduced, and of the schisms that exist amongst us; for this purpose let a selection be made out of your number, that this desirable object may be in the end obtained." According to the king's order four thousand were selected out of forty thousand, which being reported to him, he ordered another selection to be made, and out of the four thousand four hundred were chosen, men of the most approved abilities, all of them being conversant with the mysteries of the Zend Avesta.

The king being farther intent on having the most able and clever men appointed to this business, ordered another selection to be made, and out of the four hundred, forty only were selected. A still farther selection being made, seven only remained out of the forty, who were men of the most holy lives, without blemish, and who had never wilfully committed the least crime or sin against God or man. These seven were taken before the king, who explained to them his wishes with respect to the laws, and the restoring the true religion of Zeratush to its ancient purity; but having himself also many doubts, he expressed a hope that these holy men would be able to convince not only himself, but the population of his empire, of the truth and sanctity of the Magian faith by some miracle. The seven holy men assented, and having pitched on one of their number, the six addressed the king as follows:—"Ardai Viraf, oh king! is ready to convince you of the truth of our holy religion by a miracle, and we beg leave to recommend him to your majesty as the most holy man in your vast empire; he has been devoted to the study of divine things since the age of seven years, and is infinitely our superior in every thing; we shall assist him to the best of our power in this grand undertaking; and for the better understanding of this, the soul of Ardai Viraf will take its flight to the presence of God, and will return with proofs that will convince the nation of the truth and sanctity of the Magian religion." Ardai Viraf assented unto this, and explained his belief in the goodness of God, who would permit this miracle to be performed, to retrieve so many people from the sin of heresy and schism.

The king being well pleased at this determination, accompanied these holy men and the forty thousand priests, with his whole court, to the Temple of Fire, and joined with them devoutly in prayer; and Ardai Viraf having performed the usual ablutions, and attired himself in garments of the purest white; also put on the Punam, and perfumed himself according to the rites of the Magian religion, again presented himself, in an attitude of prayer and humility, before the sacred fire.

At this moment the sisters of Ardai Viraf, seven in number, arrived at the temple in tears, and represented to the king that Ardai Viraf was their only brother, whom they all looked up to for protection and support; they had heard of his intention of leaving them, in order to perform a miracle; that such presumption might or might not be acceptable to God, and if their brother did not return, they should be left in the world without any protector, as their parents were both dead.

The king and the dustoors assured them that they had nothing to fear; that their brother was under the special protection of heaven, and that in seven days he would be restored to them; and having re-assured them of this, they were dismissed from the assembly.

After this the king, with his suite, and the forty thousand priests, formed a circle round the temple, (which was given up entirely to Ardai Viraf and his six associates), for the better preventing of any kind of disturbance or molestation being given to these holy men.

Ardai Viraf having finished his prayers, reposed himself on a couch prepared for him, and his associates brought him some consecrated wine in a golden cup, and besought him to drink one portion out of three in faith and truth; and the second portion, with the same fear and respect, for truth; and the third portion, with the promise of performing only good actions. After having drank the wine, he

composed himself to rest, and continued in this state of repose and abstraction for seven days and seven nights, during which time his six associates continued watching and in prayer, as well as the forty thousand of the priesthood, who, with the king and his court, had formed a circle on the outside of the temple, to prevent any person approaching to disturb the holy persons on the inside.

At the expiration of the seven days and nights Ardai Viraf gave some signs of animation, and after some time sat upon the couch, to the great joy of his six associates, who saluted him with great pleasure ? and the king having been made acquainted with the circumstance, came also to make his congratulations, and desired that he would lose no time in informing them of what he had seen, that they might also understand. Ardai Viraf replied, "I am quite exhausted, oh king! with long fasting, but after that I have refreshed myself with food, and returned thanks to God for his goodness, I will relate to you what I have seen and heard." Refreshments having been brought, of which he partook, he ordered that a writer should be brought, who might write down what he should relate both of heaven and of hell, that all people might know the rewards for the good, and the punishments that attended the wicked doer.

The four concluding paragraphs of the volume pretend to give us the general history of the faith of Zeratush from the revelation, and of Ardai Viraf till the persecution of its disciples by the Mahomedans :—

The king being much pleased with the narration of Ardai Viraf, and placing implicit confidence in it, ordered it to be promulgated throughout the empire; and having rewarded the good priest, by showering on him all kinds of favours, and giving him a place of honour, he ordered the relation to be written in letters of gold, and placed in the archives of the empire.

The king further directed the observance of these precepts, and made known, that in the failure of their non-observance, punishment awaited: and for their more speedy promulgation, the king ordered the priests to disperse themselves throughout the empire, to instruct the people in the ways of holiness, and in the laws of the prophet Zeratush, and in their confirmation, as brought down by the holy man Ardai Viraf. By these means heresy and schism were banished, the empire was restored to tranquillity, and remained so for many years.

After the demise of Ardeshir Babegan, who was succeeded by his son Shapoor, a schism, however, took place, and more than forty thousand people withdrew from the belief placed in the relation of Ardai Viraf; when one day, Aderbad Maen Asfund, a priest and holy man in great repute, presented himself, and was admitted into the presence of Shapoor, and after the customary obeisances, addressed the king in these words: "The revelations of Ardai Viraf, oh, king! which have been so long received as comfortable truths, are now about to be doubted; a schism has arisen in our state that threatens the subversion of the Masdian religion; more than fourty thousand souls have seceded from our holy faith. But in order to convince these deluded people of the truth of the revelations handed down to us by Ardai Viraf, and promulgated throughout this vast empire by your worthy father, let oh, king! a cauldron of boiling tin be prepared, into which I will precipitate myself; when, if I escape unhurt, the probity of Ardai Viraf will be confirmed, and the laws of Zeratush be established on a firmer basis; but if I perish, the revelations may be deemed false, and I shall be punished for my presumption."

The king having with much difficulty assented to the proposition made by Aderbad, ordered the cauldron to be prepared in the most public place of the city; and Aderbad having gone through this cruel, though self-proposed ordeal, in the presence of an immense multitude, assembled to witness it, and having come out unhurt, the Masdian religion was declared to be that of the nation, and became firmer established than ever, and continued in all its purity until the Mahomedan conquest dispersed its votaries, and forced those who persevered in it to abandon the tombs of their ancestors, and fly for refuge to distant countries. A small num-

ber fled to, and were kindly received on the shores of western India; and the present Parsees of Bombay and Surat are their descendants.

The subject of the present work cannot fail to interest the intelligent reader; neither is it without beauties of thought and imagery which please the fancy; while its tendency is highly favourable to the happiness of life. Of Mr. P.'s inducement to his undertaking, and of the advantageous circumstances under which he performed it, we are disposed to speak with equal respect:—

> Of the motives that led to this translation little need be said, but that it was not mere curiosity, but a strong desire to be more intimately acquainted with the principles of a morality I admired, and of the daily exercise of benevolence that sprang from these principles.
>
> After the translation was completed, and examined by Edil Daroo, one of the most respectable of their priests, I was requested to print it; which I readily undertook, as I trust it will be the means of removing many an ill founded opinion with regard to the morality of this interesting tribe.

While it is satisfactory to know that the translation was examined and even assisted by Mr. Pope's Parsee friends, and while we doubt not its general accuracy, we cannot suppress a wish that a work which throws so much light on the opinions of those who follow the religion to which it belongs, were before the European public in its original language; and we must add, that amid our applause of the execution of this book, and still more of the spirit in which it has been produced, we have still to desire a greater perfection in the English style, and the removal of many verbal blemishes.

The book is dedicated to the Bombay Parsee family of Loujée. We advert to this circumstance with much pleasure; we wish to see frequent examples of these cordialities between our English and our Indian fellow-subjects; and, above all, to witness, in those who presume to meddle with matters of religion, that universal charity, that favourable construction and interpretation of all men's opinions, reasonings, and intentions, which should be the first fruit of the religious spirit, and without which, religion is not a flambeau to enlighten the world, but a brand to cover it with flames.

Sketches in Flanders and Holland; with some Account of a Tour through different Parts of those Countries, shortly after the Battle of Waterloo. In a Series of Letters to a Friend. By Robert Hills. Imperial quarto, pp. 215. London: Booth, 1816. 5*l*. 5*s*. Thirty-six plates.

THIS is a splendid and interesting addition to our information concerning modern Flanders, and the fight of Waterloo. "He has been persuaded," says the author, in a modest preface, and speaking of himself and his work, "that it may be acceptable as a faithful picture of the Low Countries, immediately after a most eventful period of their history." Our limits only permit us to add, that the pages of this beautiful volume abound in anecdote and description, delivered in clear and unaffected language; and that almost the whole of the thirty-six plates contain, at least, two or three views or figures on each, illustrating, by neat, spirited, and characteristic sketches, the buildings, landscape, costume, worship, and, we had almost said, the manners of the inhabitants of Flanders. A great proportion of the subjects belong to Waterloo; and among them is the house in which Buonaparte slept the night before the battle. What an increasing value will not the lapse of every year affix to these historical records! The typography is excellent, and we have great pleasure in subjoining

that the work is accompanied by a sufficient Index.

It is impossible not to dwell a little upon the plates. The drawings were made, and the outlines of the engraving etched, by the author. They were then severally acquatriated by Messrs. J. Hill, J. C. Stadler, and D. Havelle. The sketches of costume are tinted, and the remainder printed in brown, to resemble bistre drawings. Both the pencil and point of Mr. Hill, and the acquatinta of the other artists mentioned, are entitled to much praise.

A Grammar of the Persian Language, comprising a Portion of Arabic Inflexion, together with some Observations on the Structure of either Language, considered with Reference to the Principles of General Grammar. By M. Lumsden, LL. D. Professor of Arabic and Persian in the College of Fort William in Bengal. 2 vols. fol. Calcutta, 1810. Black, Parbury and Allen.

Of this elaborate and learned work our limits only permit us to present a very short extract from the author's preface, from which will be perceived the extent and depth of his views:—

"The public," says Dr. Lumsden, "have long been in possession of several Persian Grammars, among the number of which that written by Sir W. Jones has obtained the greatest share of celebrity. The work of Sir W. Jones was composed in England about forty years ago, in the very infancy of our progress in the study of the language and literature of Persia, and whatever merits or defects may be imputed to this popular performance, it must be admitted to have extended in a very eminent degree the number of European votaries to that department of oriental study.

"How it contributed to this effect, it is not necessary to inquire here. My opinion of its execution is by no means favorable, but I respect the memory of Sir W. Jones, and am entirely disposed to admit that the obvious, and perhaps at that time insuperable difficulties with which he had to contend, are more than sufficient to account for his failure, if indeed he can be said to have failed in a work which has been always distinguished by the public favor (conceded perhaps to the poetical talents and taste of the author,) though not at all remarkable, in my judgment, for the essential merit of instructive excellence.

"The work of Sir W. Jones was folfollowed, after an interval of many years, by the publication of Mr. Gladwin's Persian Moonshee; a performance in which for the first time some of the elements of Arabic Inflection were selected and arranged for the useful purpose of facilitating the study of the Persian language. Notwithstanding the merit of that and other performances of the same author, for whose labors I am happy in this opportunity of professing my esteem, an opinion continued to prevail in the minds of many oriental scholars that much yet remained to be done for the elucidation of the principles of Persian Grammar. Admitting the accuracy of that opinion, the acknowledged importance of the Persian language demanded an attempt to supply the deficiency, and if such an attempt were admitted to be necessary, its execution could be no where so reasonably expected as from some of the members of the College of Fort William.

"I happened to be the only member of the Arabic and Persian departments of the college, who had leisure from other pursuits to devote to the compilation of a Persian Grammar; but though the task was deemed to be of easy accomplishment by those who had little knowledge of the subject, I was well aware of its many difficulties, and ignorant only of the means by which those difficulties have, as I trust, been since overcome. I would therefore have willingly conceded to the superior knowledge and talents of others, the merit and labor of a work to which I was prompted by no impulse of inclination whatever; but as it was imposed by a sense of public duty, so it has been conducted throughout, I will venture to say, with an industry of research every where equal to the occasion of its exertion, and often rewarded with no ordinary success."

LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL INTELLIGENCE.

A SERIES of popular agricultural essays, written and printed at St. Helena, by Major Beatson, with the design, and happily with effect, of increasing the industry of the inhabitants of the island, occupy a considerable portion of the Major's Tracts relative to St. Helena, of which some notice was taken in our preceding number; and, while they reflect honour on the zeal displayed by that gentleman for the settlement formerly committed to his care, they also contain passages that well deserve the perusal of the general agriculturist.

In the "Introductory Chapter," the geological inquiries to which we have before referred, are pursued with much intelligence. Major B. contends for a two-fold theory, the separate parts of which depend upon different species of evidence. He thinks (and he cites many physical facts that appear to be to his purpose), that St. Helena, Ascension, and Gough's Islands, are the remains of lofty eminences, on an island of considerable magnitude, now submerged in the sea; and he is disposed to find in that island the Atlantis of Plato.

The climate of St. Helena is warmly commended by Major B., who likewise speaks strongly for its resources as capable of yielding large supplies of salsola and orchel for our manufactories, as also of its capabilities as a rendezvous for India ships. In a general view, and in the present destination of the island of St. Helena, no anxiety, we may be sure, will be manifested to render it a place of trade; nor is even the advancement of its agriculture compatible, perhaps, with that reduction, rather than increase of population, which may, at this time, be desirable. Sixty sail of transports are said to be now in constant traffic between St. Helena and the Cape of Good Hope, for the supply of the former with provisions; and this state of things, it is not inconceivable, may better par with our temporary policy in regard to it, than any increase of its prosperity. Considerations of this kind, however, take nothing from the merit of the views of our respectable author; nor from the value of the several papers of which his volume is composed.

Accounts of the death of Kotzebue are confirmed. He was in the 55th year of his age; and, since the expulsion of the French from Germany, had resided at Koningsberg as Russian consul. Perhaps, since the days of Lopez de Vega, no author has been more remarkable for the number of his dramatic productions. It has been usual for a volume of new plays from his pen to appear annually at Leipsic; beside which, he published every year a collection of pieces intended to be adapted to music, in one volume, under the title of the Opera Almanac. The last work which has appeared under his name, is one to which he has performed only the office of editor. It is a curious narrative, written by one of his sons, named Moritz, who was taken prisoner by the French during Buonaparte's campaign in Russia.—Though a German born, (he was a native of the city of Weimar), Kotzebue had become a Russian by naturalization, and his children are Russians by birth.

Kotzebue's son, in the account of his imprisonment by the French, relates the following anecdote relative to Buonaparte's passage through Eisnach, after he had abandoned the wreck of his army in the retreat from Moscow: "I had a letter to the postmistress, a handsome young woman, born at Weimar. She told me, that as she was knitting on the evening before, a man entered, wrapped up in a large pelisse. He laconically wished her good evening, and proceeded to warm his hands at the stove. Such visits were common at first, and she took no particular notice of him. He soon began, however, to make inquiries respecting the damage done by the blowing up of an ammunition waggon, and asked whether those who suffered by the accident had received the money which the French Emperor had ordered to be distributed among them? She related what she knew of the affair. He asked her whether she knew the Emperor? She answered she had only seen him transitorily. "Do you wish to see him?" "O yes!" He then threw back his pelisse, with the cape of which his face was partly covered, and said, "You see him now." The surprise of the postmistress may be easily conjectured. She offered him some refreshment, which he declined. Meanwhile there was a loud noise at the door, where Caulincourt was caning the postillions for delaying to put-to the horses. These gentlemen were on the point of returning like for like, when the postmaster, who recognized the Duke of Vicenza, ran to his assistance. In passing through the office, he found the Emperor paying compliments to his wife, and dissuading her from going to see what the noise was about. He went, however, to the door himself, put an end to the uproar, and

then proceeded further on his journey, after very politely taking leave of the postmaster and postmistress. He made the latter a present of a valuable ring."

The numerous accidents that occur by the clothes of females and children taking fire might be prevented, by the linen, of which their dresses are made, being passed through a solution of *alum*, which is an effectual security against their catching fire.

Several beautiful petrifactions have been found at Wood-End, by Mr. Ryde of Awre. He has, also, from the wasting of the shore, occasioned by the subsiding of the Severn tides, discovered a petrified tooth of some enormous unknown animal.

The school of Sacred Music in Edinburgh, at this time reckons more than 250 pupils: they are taught upon the German plan, viz. by means of a large black board, on which the master writes his lessons with chalk.

A ship is now building at one of the dock-yards at Belfast upon a new construction: instead of sailing upon the point of a wedge, this vessel is to move on the base of a triangle, and to be worked hydrostatically, upon a new plan.

A company has been recently formed in Dublin, for introducing steam-boats into Ireland. They will commence the system by carrying passengers and goods between Dublin and Holyhead.

The small expedition about to explore the river Zaire, in the south of Africa, has sailed. A transport, called the Dorothy, accompanied by a steam-boat, the Congo, will proceed to the mouth of the river, where it will remain while the last-mentioned vessel is dispatched to follow the course of the Congo, to ascertain how far it is navigable, and the character of the inhabitants of its shores; as also that of the animals, and the various articles of commerce which that part of the world may produce. Every precaution has been taken to guard against the object of the expedition being disappointed. The Congo does not draw more than four feet of water. When it shall be found impracticable to proceed further in her, the undertaking will be confided to two small cutters, which are joined together, the mast and sails being stacked between them, so as to leave the navigators the full range of each, and these will not draw more than eighteen inches of water.—Such arrangements give fair promises of ultimate success; but that which gives us most hope is the care taken to man this little expedition in the best possible manner. The hands to be employed, in number about 50, are all volunteers. None but those who are proved most efficient are accepted. Their exertions are stimulated by double pay. The Congo is about 90 tons, schooner-rigged, and draws about five feet water; she is fitted up entirely for the accommodation of officers and men, and for the reception of the objects of natural history, which may be collected in her progress up the river. The gentlemen engaged on this interesting expedition, in the scientific department, are Mr. Professor Smith, of Christiana, botanist and geologist; Mr. Tudor, comparative anatomist; Mr. Cranch, collector of objects of natural history; and a gardener to collect plants and seeds for his Majesty's gardens at Kew; besides Mr. Galway, a gentleman volunteer.—There are also two fine blacks, natives of the kingdom of Congo, one of whom was born 800 miles up the Zaire. The officers are Captain Tuckey, commanding the expedition, Lieutenant Hawkey, Mr. Fitzmaurice, master and surveyor, Mr. M'Kerrow, assistant surgeon, two master's mates, and a purser. In addition to the Congo the transport takes out two double whale boats, so fixed together as to be able to carry 18 or 20 men each, and accommodate them under an awning, with three months provisions. These boats are intended to be drawn up to the upper part of any rapids or cataracts that may occur to obstruct the passage of the Congo. Captain Tuckey was an early coadjutor of the late able navigator, Captain Flinders, on the coast of New South Wales. Captain Tuckey is also advantageously known as the author of an elaborate and excellent work, entitled "Maritime Geography," comprized in four volumes octavo; the merits of which are said to have contributed much to his present appointment.

Captain Welsh, of the Claudine, arrived from Batavia, has sent to Lloyd's the following letter:—"On the 10th of February, being then about 35 leagues distant from St. Michael's, we observed a great agitation of the waters; it was immediately followed by repeated and dreadful shocks of an earthquake; the sea so repeatedly broke over the vessel, that a great part of the cargo was obliged to be thrown overboard. The shocks appeared to come from the southward."

The Directors of the American Company at St. Petersburgh have recently communicated to the Imperial Academy of Sciences, the subjoined extract from the journal of the Lieutenant of Marine Lasarew, relating to the discovery of the Suwarow Islands:—"The Suwarow, a ship of the Russian American Company, commanded by Lieutenant Lasarew, sailed on the 20th of October 1813, from Cronstadt. After having touched at England, the Brazils, and New Holland, he sailed from Port Jackson for the Russian settlements in America. On the 27th of September 1814, his ship was surrounded by

a great number of birds, which increased towards sunset. These birds were so tame, that they began to suspect they were approaching an island. The Suwarow, having slackened sail, steered to the N. N. E., and about 11 at night a low island was perceived to the south and east: although the breakers were heard at a distance, the ship continued driving on, as at the depth of 100 fathoms no ground could be found. On the approach of daylight, four other low islands were discovered. At the distance of three miles from the shore, the sea was more than 100 fathoms deep: when they reached the beach, they found these islands inhabited only by birds, crabs, and rats; there were here and there shrubs and cocoa trees, but no trace of inhabitants. Lieutenant Lasarew named them the Suwarow islands, after his ship. He fixed their south latitude at 13 deg. 13 min. 15 sec. and their longitude at 163 deg. 31 min. 4 sec. west of the meridian of Greenwich. Thus these newly discovered islands lie at an almost equal distance from Navigators' and the Society Islands."

The thirteenth number of the Pamphleteer, just published, contains, 1. National Establishment, National Security; or, Thoughts on the consequences of commuting the Tithes. By the Rev. W. Edmeads. II. Reasons for establishing a Registry of Slaves in the British colonies. III. The Speech of Mr. Phillips, delivered in the Court of Common Pleas, Dublin, in the Case of Guthrie *v.* Sterne, for Adultery. IV. Letters on Public House Licencing; showing the errors of the present System: together with a proposal for their cure. By a magistrate for Middlesex. V. A Review of the present ruined Condition of the Landed Interests; with Observations on the extent of their Losses and Distresses, and the Origin and History of these Distresses, the Funding System, the Sinking Fund, the Burthen of the Poor, the System of Tithes in Kind, Stock-Jobbing, Usury through the medium of redeemable Annuities, Employment of Discharged Soldiers and Sailors, the Public Debt, and the expediency of supporting the Public faith to its Creditors, the Reduction of the Legal Interest of Money, the Reduction of Rents. By H. Preston, Esq. VI. Considerations on the Propriety of making a remuneration to Witnesses in Civil Actions, for Loss of Time, and of allowing the same on the Taxation of Costs, as between Party and Party; with some Observations on the present System of Taxing Costs. By Charles Frost, Attorney at Law. VII. General Reflections on the Financial Situation of France in 1816.—By M. Ch. Ganilh. Translated exclusively for the Pamphleteer. VIII. Letters on the Political and Financial Situation of the British Empire in the Year 1816; being a Continuation of those of the years 1814 and 1815. Addressed to the Earl of Liverpool. By F. P. Elliot, Esq.—IX. Considerations on the Rate of Interest, and on the Redeemable Annuities. By Edward Burtenshaw Sugden, Esq.—The foregoing pages furnish a valuable addition to the collection already presented in the twelve previous numbers of this most respectable publication.

Mr. J. A. Pope, translator of the Ardai Viraf Nameh, proposes to publish by subscription, the Maritime Philology of Hindustan, comprising a Dictionary of all the Sea terms used by the nations of Bengal, as well as those of Western India; with their derivations, and from whence adopted; with most of the proper names, in Arabic, Guzeratee, Concanee, and in the common jargon of Hindustan, in Chinese, and many in Malbaree and Malays; with a dissertation on the present state of Arabian, Indian, Chinese, and Malay Navigation; and notices respecting all the maritime tribes. The work will include, besides the sea terms and phrases, many geographical and commercial terms and descriptions. To which will be prefixed a dissertation on the poems sung and recited by all the Maritime tribes of Arabia and India.

The readers of the Asiatic Journal cannot have failed to remark the literary activity which distinguishes all communications from Java. It would probably be derogating unjustly from the merits of the several members of the Literary and Scientific Society in that settlement, were we to forget any of them in our grateful acknowledgements for the industry which so manifestly prevails; but, at least till we are otherwise informed, we shall attribute a very large proportion of what we so much admire, to the excitement and example of its excellent president, Governor Raffles. To the valuable account of a Tour in Java, contained in the two preceding numbers of this Journal, is added, in the present, a portion of a Discourse delivered by the President on the 11th of September last, (see page 341.) The remainder will appear in the succeeding number. In that paper, the research, penetration, and grasp of mind of the President, have enabled him to present us with a hive of new and interesting materials. The theatre of his observations embraces the Eastern Islands, and extends to Japan. His philological remarks on the language of Celebes and Java are highly estimable, and important both to history and to the philosophy of the human mind. With respect to the Eastern Islands, he opens a new world of antiquities, of all the

bearings of which he is not himself, perhaps, at present aware. Those who do not subscribe to all his conjectures, will yet thank him for all his information. The views and character of Japan, communicated on the authority of Dr. Ainslie, in this Discourse, will be found gratifying, and, to most readers, unexpected in the extreme. The applause bestowed by the Japanese upon the work of Kœmpfer is a singular literary anecdote; and the fact, that the English language is studied by order of the Emperor, and English books eagerly asked for in Japan, strongly marks the age in which we live, and the progress of human intercourse. "It is an extraordinary fact," says the President, "that notwithstanding the determination of the empire of Japan not to enter into foreign commerce, the English language, for seven years past, since the visit of Captain Pellew, has in obedience to an edict of the Emperor, been cultivated with considerable success, by the younger members of the College of Interpreters, who, indeed, on occasion of Dr. Ainslie's mission, were anxious in their inquiries after English books." Mr. Raffles says, a commerce between this country and Japan might easily be opened; and we find it ramoured that the Court of Directors of the East India Company is far from differing greatly in opinion with this gentleman upon the subject.

To the ardent and indefatigable mind of Mr. Raffles, all external stimulus is perhaps superfluous; and still less can any increase of industry be expected from the humble tribute of applause which this Journal is able to convey. Mr. Raffles is treading in a field of inquiry in which it seems probable that his name will never be forgotten. It is earnestly to be hoped that he has the means of procuring accurate drawings of the antiquities he describes.

Though it has been said above, that much of that literary lustre which has been mentioned as now spread over Java, is probably derived from the excitement and example of Mr. Raffles, it is also to be confessed, that President appears to be not without worthy associates, in Major Johnson, Captain Baker, Lieutenant Heyland, and Drs. Horsefield and Ainslie; and, on the whole, there seems good reason to lament, that if any copies of the Transactions of the Literary and Scientific Society of Java have reached England, they have at least, been very few in number.

The ninth edition of "The Battle of Waterloo," an octavo volume of upward of two hundred and eighty-four closely printed pages, printed for Booth and Egerton, has just made its appearance. A more needful guide to modern conversation, nor to future history, cannot be imagined, than this work, into which the industry and the patriotism of the compiler has drawn every species of information, every anecdote, every valuable reflection, every result, however remote, connected with that immortal victory which delivered England and the world. What would not be the value of a similar record of the battles of Cressy or Poictiers?

The twenty-fourth article of the Classicle Journal contains, amid a variety of articles in Classical, Biblical and Oriental Literature, an essay, the design of which is to trace the Abyssinians to a Hebrew origin, and a continuation of Professor Scott's Inquiry into the Causes and Diversity of the Human Character in various Ages, Nations and Individuals.

The second part of Major Francklin's Inquiries concerning the site of Palibothra, is received in England, and about to go to press. Major F.'s opinion upon this disputed question is, that the ancient city lay within the limits of the modern district of Bhaugulpoor.

Governor Raffles is said to be engaged in a translation of one of the old Javanese poems described in his Discourse.

The literary spirit in Java is not confined to the English inhabitants. "The angry discussions on Dutch colonial literature," says a Bombay paper of July last, "which have lately agitated the patriotic spirit of all genuine Hollanders have not yet subsided. The Gazettes of every succeeding week are vehicles of long philippics; several of which contain a considerable share of point and humour, and must be exceedingly amusing to those acquainted with the subject under disquisition, and the individual combatants."

The late volcanic eruption, of which several notices have already appeared in the Asiatic Journal, occupy universal attention in Java. The following extract of a letter from Surabaia, combining accounts of an insurrection and a volcano, displays a felicity of composition, which, perhaps, ought to be added to the literary trophies of Java:—

Extract of a letter, dated Sourabaia, 22d April,—"To-day we have had accounts of that wonder of nature, which caused such a total darkness to reign in this part of the island. Here we had it only for a short time, from 10 o'clock at night till between 10 and 11 next day, when it was as dark as darkness can be supposed to be. At Bangeewanjee, they had the same for three continued days, the ashes lying nine inches thick on the ground, the trees borne down and *withered with the weight*, and some houses fallen in. All this proceeded from a volcano bursting in the centre of the island, inland from Besookie, and close to which I had been a few days before, *in pursuit of a set of rebels*, who did not wish to

become again tributary to the Dutch Government. As we got the head of the head-man of the party, with a few others, we had reason to suppose all would be quiet; *but the calamity has burst forth on us again. The crashes certainly were tremendous and very painful to the ear.*

"The name of the mountain is Rawah, half way between Besookie and Pugul, on the South Sea coast; orthographists may spell it differently; we have many of them in Java.

The following works are announced for publication :—

Margaret of Anjou: a Poem. By Miss Holford, author of Wallace. 4to.

An Enquiry into the Literary and Political Character of James I. By the author of Curiosities of Literature. Crown 8vo.

Narrative of the Adventures and Travels in the Interior of Africa of Robert Adams, a Sailor, who was wrecked on the Western Coast of Africa, in the year 1810; was detained three years in slavery amongst the Arabs of the Great Desert, and resided several months at Tombuctoo. With a map, and copious notes: printed uniformly with Park's Last Journey and Life, in 4to. This work comprises an interesting picture of the sufferings of Christians who have the misfortune to fall into the hands of the Arabs —curious details of the characters, lives, and habits of the various tribes of the Desert—and the only account, on the testimony of an eye-witness, of the present state of that great object of European research—the city of Tombuctoo.

An account of the singular habits and circumstances of the people of the Tonga Islands, in the South Pacific Ocean.—By Mr. William Mariner, of the Port au Prince, private ship of war; the greater part of whose crew were massacred by the natives of Lefooga: Mr. Mariner remaining for several years after, a constant associate of the King and the higher class of chiefs. Dedicated, by permission, to Sir Joseph Banks. With a vocabulary of the language. 2 vols. 8vo.

Elementary Fortification. Illustrated by upwards of five hundred Diagrams in wood, and several engravings. By Lieutenant Col. C. W. Pasley, author of the Essay on Military Policy, 8vo.

The Life of Michael Angelo, comprising a critical disquisition on his merit as a sculptor, a painter, an architect, and a poet. With translations of some of his sonnets by Southey and Wordsworth. By R. Duppa, Esq. With a portrait by Bartolozzi. Third edition. 8vo.

A System of Mechanical Philosophy, by the late John Robison, L. L. D. Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University, and Secretary to the Royal Society of Edinburgh. With notes and illustrations, comprising the most recent discoveries in the Physical Sciences. By David Brewster, L. L. D. F. R. S. E. In 4 vol. 8vo. with numerous plates.

Atheniensia; or, Remarks on the Buildings and Topography of Athens. By William Wilkins, A. M. F. A. S. late Fellow of Gonvel and Caius College, Cambridge. With plates, 8vo.

Museum Criticum; or, Cambridge Classical Researches. No. VI. This number will contain, among other matter, the following articles:

Letters and Papers relating to the Egyptian Inscription of Rosetta.—Account of the Dramatic Representations of the Greeks. J. J. Scaligeri Epistolæ quædam Selectæ.--Stesichori Fragmenta--Remarks on the Versification of Homer.—On the Population of Athens.—Review of Dr. Maltby's Thesaurus Græcæ Proseos.—Review of Willet's edition of Galeni Adhortatio ad Artes, &c. &c. &c.

An Essay on Population, with important additions and emendations. By the Rev. E. Malthus. 3 vols. 8vo.

Travels in the Interior Districts of Africa; performed in the years 1795, 6, and 7, and during a subsequent mission in 1805. By Mungo Park. To which is prefixed a copious Life of Mr. Park. A new Edition in 2 vols. 8vo. The second volume in 8vo. containing Mr. Park's last Journey and Life, will be sold separately.

Remarks on Antiquities, Arts, and Letters, during an Excursion in Italy, in the years 1802-3; with numerous and important corrections and additions, made by the author previous to his recent decease. By Joseph Forsyth, Esq. Second Edition, 8vo.

The Third Volume of Dibdin's Edition of Ames, and Herbert's curious Typographical Embellishments, 4to.

The present volume will be found, from its variety and richness, to possess a more general interest than either of those which have preceded it. There is scarcely a department in the whole range of early English Literature, but what may be said to be illustrated in the following pages. The Romances of the Coplands; the Dramatic pieces of the Rastels, &c. the Poetry of Godfray, Wyer, &c.; the Philology of Berthelet; the Law Publications of Redman; and the valuable body of Theology published by Grafton and Whitchurch, must render the present volume a valuable acquisition to the curious; especially as, in each of these departments, much additional matter has been introduced, and many corrections have been made. The embellishments also, it is hoped, will be found to keep pace with its intrinsic worth; but of those which face pages 40 and 462, I may con-

fidently here bespeak the warmest approbation of the skilful. Their accuracy and felicity of execution are alike admirable.—*Author's Preface to vol. iii.*

The History of the late War in Spain and Portugal. By Robert Southey, Esq. 2 vols. 4to.

Observations, Anecdotes, and Characters of Books and Men. By the Rev. Joseph Spence. Arranged with notes, a preparatory Dissertation, and illustrations. Handsomely printed by Bulmer, in 8vo.

Works of Ben Jonson, complete; carefully collated with the earliest editions, and corrected; illustrated with Notes, critical and explanatory. To which is prefixed, an original life of the Author. By William Gifford, Esq. Handsomely printed by Bulmer, in 9 vols. 8vo.

Journal of a Tour on the Continent, during the years 1813-14; comprising Descriptions of the following Places (most of which have been rendered interesting by late events) Berlin, Stockholm, Petersburgh, Moscow, Smolensko, &c. By J. T. James, Esq. Student of Christ Church, Oxford. With plates, 4to.

Journal of Science and the Arts, edited at the Royal Institution. 8vo. To be published Quarterly.

No. I. to be published on the 31st of March, will contain Original Communications from Sir H. Davy, Sir Everard Home, J. F. Daniell, C. Babbage, N. L. Young, R. Phillips, W. T. Brande, J. W. Ireland, J. Millington, Esqs. with Reports of the Lectures, Scientific Intelligence, &c. &c.

The Selections of English Poetry, by Mr. Campbell, are not to appear for the present—as it has been judged better that the critical part of that work, containing a view of English Poetry, should be made a part of Mr. Campbell's Lectures on Antient and Modern Poetry, which are in preparation, upon a very extensive scale.

The Annual Register; or, a View of the History, Politics, and Literature, for the year 1807, being the Seventh Volume of a New Series.

The volume for 1797, in continuation of the former Series, has been some time in the press, and will be published shortly; in which, among much other important matter, will be found a more full and authentic account, than has hitherto appeared, of French Affairs, from the Autumn of 1795 to that of 1797.

The Travels of Ali Bey, in Morocco, Tripoli, &c. are published, in two quarto volumes, illustrated by about one hundred plates.

Mr. C. Blunt, optician, is preparing for the press, a Descriptive Essay on Spectacles, and the apparatus used to assist imperfect vision in the human eye.

P. W. Crowther, Esq. has in the press, the Christian Manual, compiled from a translation of the Enchiridion Militis Christiani of Erasmus, with copious Scripture notes.

Memoirs of the Ionian Isles, and of their Relation with European Turkey, translated from the original manuscript of M. de Vaucondort, late general in the Italian service, is in the press, with an accurate and comprehensive map.

Mr. William Jones, late acting surgeon at Serampore, will soon publish, a collection of Facts and Opinions relative to Widows burning themselves with the dead bodies of their Husbands, and to other destructive customs prevalent in British India.

Medico-chiurgical Transactions, by the Medical and Chiurgical Society of London, volume the Seventh, is in a state of forwardness.

Mr. J. Ingle has in the press, the Aerial Isles, or the Visions of Malcolm, a poem, with notes.

Jane of France, a historical novel, translated from M. de Genlis, will soon appear in two volumes.

Mr. John Kirby, of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, is preparing for publication, Cases in Surgery, with Remarks.

Mr. Boothroyd will complete his Biblia Hebraica in the course of a month. He has also in a state of forwardness, Reflections on the Authorized Version of the Scriptures; reasons for attempting its improvement; and a specimen of such an attempt.

Mr. Thomas Little, jun. has in the press, a duodecimo volume of poems.

Mr. G. M. Butt will soon publish, Sherborne Castle, and other juvenile poems.

The Rev. G. S. Faber has a volume of Sermons in the press.

The Rev. —— Case of Hackney, will soon publish an Abridgement of the late Mr. Robinson's Scripture Characters, in a duodecimo volume.

The Lives of Dr. Pocock, Bishop Pearce, Bishop Newton, and Mr. Skelton, taken from the editions of their works, are printing in two octavo volumes.

A new edition, corrected and greatly enlarged, of Dr. Cove's Essay on the Revenues of the Church of England, is in the press.

A second edition of the Devout Communicant is nearly ready.

A new edition of Bishop Jeremy Taylor's Prayers, improved in the arrangement by Mr. Clapham, is in the press.

Mr. Joseph Sams of Darlington, is in the possession of a complete manuscript of the Pentateuch, recently procured from the continent, and deemed to be from fourteen to 1500 years old. This copy is of leather, in two volumes, about two feet broad and 69 long. There is reason to believe it has been above 800 years in one Jewish family on the conti-

nent, and that it is the oldest copy of the Law in existence.

The Jewish Expositor, a new monthly publication, which commenced with the year, contains, among other interesting articles of Hebrew literature and history, an account af the Chinese Jews first mentioned by Gabriel Brotier. These Jews are represented as having emigrated into China from Persia, in the year of Christ 73. Further notice of this subject will be taken in the Asiatic Journal. The Jewish Exposition is printed for the London Society for promoting Christianity among the Jews, and is sold at sixpence each number.

MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

HOME.

THE subjugation of the whole of Ceylon, to British authority, says the Missionary Register for the late month, by the defeat and captivity of the King of Candy, opens new prospects to missionary exertions. The favour of the local authorities to all prudent attempts of this nature has turned the attention of various institutions towards this field of labour. The London and Baptist Missionary Societies have, for several years, maintained missions in the island. The Church Missionary Society has long had Ceylon in its eye, and has been making preparations for the establishment there of a mission on a considerable scale; and is now taking measures which will ultimately lead, it is hoped, to the formation of one of those Christian institutions which it is proposed to establish in the most promising spheres of missionary labour. The Wesleyan Methodists have recently entered on this field, and are making strenuous and successful exertions. The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions is also pressing forward to this scene.

AGRA.

Shekh Salih, a Mahomedan, born at Delhi, was baptized by the late Rev. David Brown, in the Old Church, Calcutta, on Whit-Sunday, in the year 1811, by the name of Abdool Messeeh, "servant of Christ." In the close of 1812, he left Calcutta, to proceed to Agra, about eight hundred miles NW. of that city, where he sustained the office of reader and catechist under the Church Missionary Society. Some interesting Journals of his proceedings, from the time of his leaving Calcutta to August, 1814, have been drawn up by Mr. Corrie from minutes taken at the time.

The following are extracts from his journal for January 1815, translated and compiled by a friend, from the original minutes of Abdool, written in Hindoostanee.

Jan. 2. In the morning, all the native Christians, men and women, came to prayers in the church, and then went about their usual occupations. The children first pointed out a verse of the gospel each, and then occupied themselves in their Persian reading. After breakfast, having committed their tasks to memory, they were employed in writing Persian. Abdool retired to his house, to receive any who might wish see him, for the sake of counsel or inquiry. After dinner, occupied in correcting the schoolboys' Persian writing. Nuwazish Messeeh and Inayut Messeeh heard them repeat their lessons. Occupied afterwards in looking over the Koran, to prepare answers to the Mahomedan disputers. At four o'clock, heard the boys their lessons, and dismissed them. Abdool then went to meet the Christian brethren, who had come from Gualior to visit him, and brought them to his house. After taking refreshment, prayed together, and went to rest. Accidentally rising in the night, had much discussion respecting the Portuguese Church, and the inventions of their priests. At last, having nothing to answer, they were silent.

Jan. 3. Having performed worship and set the children to their tasks as usual, Abdool was preparing to return to his house, when a handsome well-dressed young man, with several attendants, entered the Kuttra, and inquired, "Where is Abdool Messeeh?" On Abdool's being pointed out, he came up to him; and, having saluted him, said: "I have come a long way to see you: I heard of you in Jaypore. I have read several books of the New Testament, and am fallen into great doubts respecting the Hindoo faith; but, on account of my family, I am afraid to embrace the true way, and I have been in great distress a long time." He then repeated several parts of the gospel; and it appeared from his discourse that he had read much of the Scripture, and had imbibed great suspicion of the soundness of his creed. He then inquired concerning the first conversion of Abdool. Abdool related to him his whole history; and, till eight o'clock, laboured, with arguments drawn from Scripture, to confirm him. The young man, raising his head after long consideration, observed, "What you say is very just. The godhead of the

Lord and Saviour is clear; but it is quite an impossible thing to leave all one's relations and friends." Abdool observed, "Our Saviour has said in the gospel, that *if any one will not leave his friends, for my sake, he is not worthy of me.*" He was silent, and asked for a copy of the Epistle to the Romans, which was given him. He then took a friendly leave. At parting, Abdool asked his name: he replied, "Ramdyal Brahmin;" and said that he was going the next day to Muttra, where his elder brother had gone to bathe; and requested Abdool to pray for him, that God would remove his doubts, and teach him the truth. Abdool answered, "Amen!"

Jan. 4. After worship and tasking the children, a servant of the Hukeem Hyder 'oodden came to call Abdool, saying, that the Hukeem's eldest son had come from the Court of Oojim, to see his father; and having heard of Abdool since his arrival, was desirous to see him. Abdool went, and found the sons of Molwee Umjud, and several of the heads of the city, seated there, and the volume of Mahomedan traditions lying before them. On seeing Abdool, they advanced with kindness to meet him; and the Hukeem's son, who has attended on many Mussulmen as a disciple, inquired after his health. Abdool *inadvertently* replied, that, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, he was better. All present frowned, and said, "That is an infidel speech. You should not have so said. Jesus Christ is truly a Prophet, but not God; and it is idolatrous to call him so." Abdool replied, "It would be infidelity in a Christian to call Christ merely a Prophet. If Christ is like other Prophets, what advantage have Christians? A Prophet has no power to forgive sins; but our Saviour Jesus Christ has power to forgive sins. It would be stupidity to compare him with mere Prophets." They asked, "By what argument do you prove his power to forgive sins?"—Abdool answered, "By the gospel;" and taking a copy from his man, Dubel Messeeh, he read the ninth chapter of St Matthew: they all listened attentively, and shook their heads in silence. At last the Hukeem's son, a very superior man, said, "If that is the original gospel, and no wise corrupted or interpolated, you are right." Abdool wished, if any of them desired a copy of the gospel to give them one; but they were all ashamed to receive one. "Soon after, the Hukeem Hyder 'ooddeen, fearing such discourses should weaken his influence, and that some disagreement might arise, kindly dismissed Abdool. He had scarcely reached home, when a fever seized him till midnight, and then went off.

Jan. 5. Molwee Rownie, and Moonshee Meer Ulee, with three of their followers came in. After salutation, they sat down, and said that they had heard of Abdool's apostacy, from Mahomed Kulee Khan, in Moradabad; and, having come to Agra on business, they had determined to ascertain his uncleanness, by a personal inquiry. Abdool answered, "God bless you, who have taken such a shameless fellow as you, upon the face of the earth!" Abdool said, "You say true: I am even worse than you describe." On a sudden, they said, in a milder manner, "How will you answer this to God?" Abdool replied, "It is most true, I know not what I can answer; but I hope in the word, that the Lord Jesus Christ himself has spoken, *I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.* I firmly trust, that he, and not another, shall answer for me a sinner. His grace is universal, and he casts out no one from his presence; neither, I trust, will he dismiss me in despair." When they heard this, they rose and departed, and said, "God give you understanding!" Abdool answered, "Amen!"

Jan. 9. In the morning, Abdool was waiting the assembling of the congregation, when a man from Saleh Dhurum Das came, and said that the Saleh's son, who considered himself a prodigy of correctness and religion, was waiting to see him. Abdool promised to go after prayers. Before prayers were over, another man came, and seating himself in a corner, observed what was going on. At last he said, "Certainly what the gospel says is true, and what is therein written is indeed godliness." After prayers, Abdool joined the messenger. They went on, conversing, till they came to the Saleh's house. On entering, they found the young man, very well dressed, sitting at his ease on a carpet, reclining on cushions; and several Fakeers of the Jogee Tribe, sitting, like so many oxen, with their naked bodies rubbed over with dirt; and a very fat one among them, singing out, like the braying of an ass, from a book which he held in his hand. Abdool asked who they were. The young man answered they were mortified Fakeers. Abdool replied, that they did not grow so fat on austerities: these seemed well fed, and at their ease. The company laughed, and commenced a disputation, with arguments *founded on reason.*

Jan. 10. Two Roman Catholics attended service; and, when it was over, began to question concerning the way; and said, "It seems very wrong to us that you pray without the mediation of the Virgin Mary, who is the Mother of God, and without whose intercession no prayer can be acceptable." Abdool set the gospel before them; and said, "If the mediation of the Virgin is to be proved from the holy gospel, be so good as to produce

the passage." They said, "There is a book called 'The Mirror of Holiness,' in which it is written that the Virgin also was born without sin." Abdool answered, "This is some fetch of your Padres. I presume 'The Mirror of Holiness' is written by some of your priests." They assented; and brought a number of vain unfounded arguments, and said that the Pope had lately composed a prayer, and had circulated it, which whoever should read, the sins of seventy years should be forgiven him by God. On hearing this, all who were present laughed, and said that could never be.

Jan. 11. This day, Roshun Ulee, an inhabitant of Shumsabad, arrived from Abdool's friends at Lucknow, and inquired for Abdool in the city. The persons whom he asked spoke opprobriously of Abdool and his belief; and said, "What! do you want to go to that Kuttra, and be deceived? For God's sake don't go. You had much better continue your journey." The man replied, "My good friend, I only asked you the way to the Kuttra: I did not ask your advice. You seem strange madmen here." At last, an Armenian pointed out the way; when he came, and related to Abdool what had passed.

Jan. 12. This morning, during service, a man called out at the door of the Kuttra for a light: another called out to him not to take fire there, for it was impure. This afterward afforded much amusement to the Christians.

Jan. 20. Two or three Hindoos, with marks drawn on their foreheads, came and asked after the Padre Sahib,* and said that they had heard reports of him in the army of the Muharaj, and greatly regretted that they had no opportunity of paying their respects to him. They had heard, they said, that he was an incarnation among the Europeans, and that many persons had from his preaching become Christians.

Jan. 21. Five or six, poor widow women of the city were present at worship. After service, they inquired after the Padre Sahib. Abdool answered, that he had not obtained any relief from his complaint; and that he had heard that he had gone on board ship with his lady, with the intention of proceeding to England. They replied, "We all remain with uplifted hands in prayer, that Almighty God would bring him back in health and safety to this country." Abdool gave them a trifle.

Jan. 23.—Molwee Kumur-'oodden, an inhabitant of Murrerut, who was proceeding to Ajmere to visit Maiyun 'ooddeen, seeing Inayut Messeeh standing at the Kuttra door, inquired after Abdool, and came with his companion into the Kuttra: accosting Abdool he said, "I am come from Lucknow, where I met your younger brother, who has called himself Yusuf Messeeh; and I understood from his conversation, that he has also apostatized, like yourself, I therefore suppose, that one by one, your whole family will become apostates." He then inquired the site of the church, and the opinions of men in that quarter. When he heard the state of affairs, and the spread of the gospel, he was greatly astonished; and frowning, and eyeing one by one all the men in the Kuttra, he departed.

Jan. 24.—After the usual service at seven o'clock, and instruction of the children, Abdool was going home to breakfast. Just then a stranger, newly arrived at Agra, came to visit him. He began by saying, that he had come from the Punjab; and having heard Abdool's name exceedingly ill spoken of in the city, the men of which called him Infidel and Apostate, and a Renegade from the faith of Mahomed, he came to ascertain the fact; and if, which God forbid, he should have been correctly informed, to inquire the cause. Abdool replied, "My friend, I was formerly a Mussulman: nay, I was forward in the Mussulman faith; and all my family have been Mussulmen. When I came to read the Holy Book, I found that the Mahomedan faith has not the truth, I, therefore, quitted that way. The visitor said, "This is very strange. You appear to have been well enough as a Mussulman. A dog or a hog would abhor such conduct as yours; and in my whole life, I never saw one so cursed as you, who so shamelessly declare, 'I was a Mussulman, and am become a Christian.' Curse on your conduct! And alas! that Mahomedanism is become so degenerate! Were you in my city, the citizens would quickly speed you to hell." Abdool answered, "My good sir, you condescended to inquire after your servants' affairs: your servant simply related them. Do you break into such anger at the first hearing of such facts? Would you remain silent but a moment, your servant would lay a statement of the holy gospel before you. If it be found worthy of approval, well. If there be any evil in it, command what punishment you will on this sinner." The stranger answered, "It is no injury that I do you; since the prophet has forbidden our reading and hearing the gospel, which has been abrogated."

* "The English Father," by which appellation they mean Mr. Corrie.—*Edit.*

DEBATE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

East India House, March 20, 1816.

A quarterly general court of proprietors of East India Stock, was this day held at the Company's house, in Leadenhall-street.

The usual routine of business having been disposed of—

The *Chairman* (C. Grant, Esq. M. P.) acquainted the court, that in conformity with the 4th section and 1st chapter of the bye-laws, there would be laid before the proprietors sundry papers, which had been presented to Parliament since the last quarterly court.

The title of the papers were then read.

The *Chairman* then stated, that he had likewise to lay before the court an account of the company's stock, *per computation*, drawn out, with respect to India, to the 1st of May, 1814, and with respect to England, to the 1st of May, 1815; and also, copies of proceedings of the court of directors, relative to advice received for the 25th of August 1814, to the 24th of August 1815, ordered by the general court of December last.

SHIPPING SYSTEM.

The *Chairman* next announced, that it had been thought necessary to make the court *special*, on account of certain proceedings which had taken place, respecting the shipping system. Those gentlemen who were connected with that system, knew that it was founded on the principle of a fair and open competition. The vessels were taken up for their duration—and one fixed rate was paid for them. This was the course adopted during the long war, which had recently been closed. It was impossible, while the war lasted, to estimate, accurately, the price of various stores, on the return of peace. But, as it was part of the system to allow, during a period of war, certain contingent expenses, it went on very well, at least for the company—but he could not say, that it was equally beneficial for the ship-owners. Now, at the end of a twenty years' war, the *peace-rates* were found lower, by the ship-owners, than they conceived they could, consistently with their interest, accept. What might be the case, when things returned to their ordinary channel, and, by the operation of the peace, come to their proper level, would be seen hereafter. But, with respect to ships, at present, the price of stores of all kinds, was such, that the owners could not afford to sail them, at the peace-rate—which was the only rate the court of directors could, by law, grant them. Exactly the same difficulty occurred in 1802-3, on the conclusion of the peace of Amiens. After a long consideration of the court of directors, at that time, the question having been also investigated by a special committee of that court, came to a resolution to relieve the ship-owners. They reported their sentiments to the court of proprietors, and requested their sanction for an application to Parliament, to procure such relief, as, under the circumstances of the time, was deemed necessary. The present was a case of precisely the same kind, happening twelve or thirteen years after that which he had reverted to; and the court of directors saw no better way of getting out of the difficulty, than by calling for the consent of that court to go to Parliament, to obtain the requisite power for doing what, in their discretion, might seem proper for the owners. He thought it necessary to open the subject so far; and, wishing to submit to the consideration of the court, more fully, the nature of the case, and the remedy that was required, he should propose that certain papers, connected with the matter, should now be read; and he would afterwards submit to the court a motion founded on them.

The clerk then read the minutes of the proceedings of a court of directors held on Friday, the 1st of March, 1816. The document set forth, that the court had taken into consideration the letters received from several managing owners of ships, taken up for the present season, who had refused to sign their charter-party; alleging, as a reason, the necessity of having extra-rates, beyond the peace allowances, granted them,— stating that the present was different from all former periods, except that, subsequent to the peace of Amiens, referring to the high price of stores, and to the great charge of repairs in India and China; all which circumstances, they observed, called on the court to take their case into consideration, and to devise such relief as would prevent them from ruin. The court did not deem it necessary to go at large into the shipping system, which had been done by a committee in February 1803, when an elaborate report was drawn up on that subject, from which they would extract a few paragraphs, which were perfectly applicable to the present situation of the owners. The report of 1803 stated, " that it was perfectly at the option of the company to grant relief or not. The mode was, when a ship was taken up by the company, to fix the price once for all; but the demand for increased rates went to render the price variable, as the price of stores differed. The example being set, in every like case it would apply; and, without some new and ef-

fectual check were adopted, would prevent the peace-rate from being kept up to a fixed standard. It might also induce individuals to offer low terms, at first, in the hope that they would afterwards be able to get a compensation. They might bid, not for what they could sail for, but considerably below the regular contract rate, with a view afterwards of regaining compensation, by which means the present shipping-system would be done away. The owners might come forward, on a ground similar to that now advanced, and call for a rate of payment greater than what they had contracted for. It was not merely to be considered as an application for a grant of money, but was to be looked to with reference to its possible ulterior consequences. It was not every claim of this sort that could be entertained. Where a loss was fully and distinctly shewn, relief might be granted. But it would be necessary to distinguish between those who had gone some of their voyages, and those who had the whole to perform. It remained also to be considered, whether they should be relieved at the expense of the present system, made to give up their contracts; or whether such a plan should be devised as would preserve the system, and, at the same time, afford the relief required. The committee would not give an opinion on this point, but, having stated thus much on this important subject, left the court of directors to devise such measures as might appear most conducive to the general good."—The reasoning brought forward here applied to the present case. The owners of ships now taken up, could not withdraw themselves, without becoming subject to an action for damages; and certainly the peace-price of stores had not fallen so low as to enable them to sail, without sustaining considerable loss. The court, therefore, with the example before them, of the long deliberation on the subject, which took place after the peace of Amiens, were of opinion, that the best and safest mode would be to adopt some general plan, which, while it preserved the present system, might give relief to the owners. They knew that no relief could be extended by them, without the consent and approbation of the general court; but they had desired their solicitor to lay a case before their standing counsel, for the purpose of determining whether they could give immediate relief to the owners, by allowing them rate of freight, in time of peace, higher than those they had contracted for; without applying to parliament. On this point they had not yet heard Mr. Bosanquet's opinion. The report then recommended, that the relief granted in the case of 1804, should be again resorted to; but stated that, as the owners, in many instances, had the benefit of the high rate, applicable to a period of war, it was not just that all the loss should fall on the company. The court therefore recommended, that the owners should be called on for the payment of the penalty mentioned in their bonds, being from 5 to 10,000*l.* for each ship; a deduction being made, in proportion to the number of voyages performed. As there were *five* several acts, relative to the company's shipping, the court expressed their opinion, that it would be extremely convenient, if they were comprised in one act, such alterations being made, as circumstances might appear to require.

A Report of the committee of shipping, which was laid before the court of directors, held on Friday, the 1st of March, was also read. It was, in effect, the same as the preceding document.

The *Chairman* then, by way of introducing the regular consideration of the subject to the court, submitted to the Proprietors the following resolution, for the approbation:—

"That this court, taking into consideration the general advance occasioned in their price of Naval Stores, by the long continuance of the late war, and the other reasons on which the court of directors have proposed to grant to the owners of ships, engaged under the new system, an addition, for the present year only, to their peace rates of freights, are of opinion, that although the owners of those ships can have no claim to any increase of rates spontaneously proposed by themselves, in the way of free competition, yet as the prices of naval stores have not, from the circumstances of the time, fallen to a peace level, and the owners are subjected to much expense in the outfit of their ships, as at their peace rates of freight must expose them to heavy loss, this court is willing, on the present occasion, to grant to the said owners relief in the manner suggested by the court of directors, provided the same may be done with safety to the existing shipping system. And this court doth, thefore authorise the court of directors to request the sanction of Parliament to the grant of the proposed relief, with such precaution as may prevent it from affecting the stability of that system."

He (the Chairman) had only to observe, in proposing this resolution, that it was, in substance, entirely, and, in words, almost the same, with that which the court adopted in 1803, on a case exactly similar to the present. Though it was to be lamented, for different reasons, that such an occurrence had taken place, because it rendered a proceeding necessary, that militated against the principle pursued for many years—that of open com-

petition and the adherence to one regular rate—yet as it had happened but once before, and probably would not again, for a considerably longer period, it was an inconvenience, he presumed, that might well be submitted to, rather than give up that system which had been so beneficial to the company. On this ground, he felt no hesitation in proposing the resolution.

Mr. *Hume* suggested the propriety of granting some delay, before the court came to a decision.

The *Chairman* said, the court of directors, in the view they had taken of this case, were borne out by the opinion of the committee of 1803, whose decision was the result of a long and accurate consideration of the question. Acting under the experience, and pursuing the example of that committee, they thought that there was no occasion for deferring the question. The directors were equally willing to consult the benefit of the owners as the advantage of the company—and certainly there was enough of the session unexpired to render hurry unnecessary. But, if there was no reason to doubt the statements made by the owners, which, he believed, they were ready to substantiate, he could see nothing that called for delay.

Mr. *Hume* was satisfied that the importance of this question demanded further time for consideration. Although, he was ready, at all times, to admit, that the proceedings of former days should be attended to in that court, yet he thought that the precedent of 1804 was a bad one—and, looking to their finances, at the present time, ought not to be acted upon. He wished the court to know clearly the reasons why he objected to this resolution. Those ship-owners, who now asked for relief from their present difficulties, had acted spontaneously.—*(Hear, hear.)* In answer to the advertisement of the Company, who wanted shipping, they became bidders. Their tenders were lowest, and were consequently accepted of. It was for them to calculate the smallest sum they could take. If they had not made up their minds on the subject, why did they send in any tender? Why did they interfere with others, whose tenders being higher, were rejected—and which, but for them, would probably have been agreed to. Here was an end to all contracts, if an individual having once agreed to certain terms, were allowed to depart from them. He wished to know, whether an estimate had been formed of the probable expense attending the proposed relief? It was important that information should be given to the court on that point. It sounded very well, to say, "deduct 5,000*l.* or 10,000*l.* from each ship." But that was nothing, when the owner received 30 or 40,000*l.* to pay it.—*(Hear, hear.)* He wanted an estimate of the expense—and he wanted to know, whether the owners were willing to give up the extra expenses, which would not be incurred by repairing in time of peace? These were considerations that ought to weigh with the court. They ought not hastily to adopt a resolution, in opposition to the contracts made by the owners, and in opposition to the terms which others had offered, but which had been refused. Certainly the subject ought to be well considered before the resolution was agreed to—and, as the honourable Chairman had observed that there was plenty of time, and that no necessity existed for a hurried proceeding, he hoped the court would feel it more decorous, more proper, and more consistent with justice to all parties, to postpone the question for fourteen days, until gentlemen had an opportunity of examining and understanding it. He did not wish to delay the business of the court unnecessarily—but, if his statement were correct—if this were a proceeding which struck at the root of all contracts—then, he conceived the proprietors would feel with him that a few days delay were absolutely necessary.

Mr. *Lowndes*, said, that he had always, in matters of contract, been surprized at one thing. When a parcel of contractors suffered loss by their speculations, they regularly called upon the public to remunerate them; but, when they made *cent. per cent.* they would never give up a farthing of it. He did not understand this. He could not tell why the public were to make good all the losses, while the contractors pocketed all the gains.—*(a laugh.)* Some years ago, many of our merchants imported great quantities of grain; and he was very glad of it, for, but for the supply thus afforded, the country would have been starved. When the sale became slack, and the merchants began to lose, not at all recollecting the immense profits they had previously made, they went to Parliament. For what? Why to procure relief for the losses they had sustained. But it appeared to him, that contractors ought to put up with the losses as well as with the gains. Now, with respect to the shipping contract, he would mention a case in point, to shew that there was a *snake in the grass*. He would say this, although a gentleman, for whom he had the greatest respect, was a ship-owner. This proved, that friendship would not make him swerve from the execution of his duty. Indeed, if he were called on to give up either his friend or his country, he would not hesitate for a moment—he would adhere to his country. Gentlemen must be aware,

that leases were often granted, in which covenants were inserted, binding the lessee not to build on certain places, lest a prospect should be shut out, or for any other reason. Now, he recollected, when the rage for building was at its height, houses were erected in the Old Crescent, at Bath, though there was a penalty of 10,000 *l.* for building on that spot. But how did the matter stand? The people found it was worth their while, such was the rage for building, to pay the penalty. They did so. They paid 10,000*l.* and put 20,000*l.* in their pocket. Was there not something of a similar nature, with regard to giving up the penalty of 5,000 *l.* or 10,000*l.* in this case? Instead of losing 5,000 l. the contractors would probably make 10 or 15,000 *l.* Therefore he called on the court to pause and deliberate before they agreed to such a proposition, as the remitting 5,000 *l.* to each ship. There would be an end to contracts of this nature, if they suffered such a proceeding. Each party should be bound, in honour, to abide by his contract, whether profitable or unprofitable. If it happened to be the latter, let the sufferer endeavour to make a better contract the next time. He agreed with the honourable gentleman (Mr. Hume) who understood this subject much better than he did, that it would be better to discuss the question fourteen days hence, that they might have time to consider and re flect, before they gave their judgment, in a matter of such serious consequence.

The *Chairman* said, the honourable gentleman who had just sat down, had mistaken one very material point, Instead of giving up the penalty of 5,000 *l.* it was intended to press it—to make the owners pay it—as a part of the consideration on which the court would be induced to accommodate, in some degree, those who were injured by the present peace rates, as contrasted with the price of stores. An honourable member (Mr. Hume) had inquired, what relief was to be granted? what the company would be called on to pay? The court of directors had not thought proper to bring that forward. If they stated that point to the court, the owners would soon be apprized of it, and, under all circumstances, they would endeavour to make the company act up to any incidental declaration on that head. They (the directors) were not so *green* as to act in that manner.—*(a laugh)*—What they wanted was, to procure the sanction of the court of proprietors to apply to parliament, and when they got the necessary power from the legislature, they would make the best and most discreet use of it, for the benefit of the company. It was important that the ships should be continued in the service of the company. If the owners were incapable of sailing them—and, he believed, in many instances, they would be so—then let the proprietors see how they would be inconvenienced by it. He did not mean to say that they would have no resource.

The company were not in the power of any set of men, and let not the ship-owners value themselves on that point. But it would surely be more convenient to make use of the present ships, which were built for the company's service, than to go into the market and take up any ships that might offer.

If the judgment, given by the executive body, after long and solemn consideration, together with the evident necessity of the case, were not sufficient to induce the court to entrust the power called for in the hands of the directors—a power which they did not abuse at a former period—he knew of no circumstance that could lead them to agree to it. He conceived it was very advisable to avoid all unnecessary delay; and having made these few observations, he would leave the court to decide as they might think fit.

Mr. *K. Smith.*—"How far is it intended to go back with this relief?"

The *Chairman*—"Not an hour."

Mr. *K. Smith*—"Are *all* the ships going out to be relieved?"

The *Chairman*—"Perhaps the hon. gentleman may be amongst the very few who will not seek for relief.—In that case the company will not tender it."

Mr. *K. Smith* said, though he might ask for relief, he felt that he was not one of those who deserved it.—*(a laugh)* Ten years hence, in the event of a war, they would be in the same state as they were now. Materials would be at the same price, ten years hence, as they were now. Under these circumstances, if gentlemen tendering at a fair, honest, and upright price, were thrown out of the market, and lower tenders taken, what right had those who sent them in to complain? He would sooner forfeit his 5,000*l.* than give up his opinion on this point. However, it was impossible for the ships to sail at the present prices—they could not sail, at the rates now tendered.—Therefore, he asked, whether *all* the ships were to be relieved—those built two, three, or even ten years ago?

The *Chairman* said, that was a question he was not prepared to answer, nor did he think it at all material; because what the court of directors now proposed to be adopted was a principle to be acted on in cases of great necessity, and no other. With respect to the observation, that ships now tendered could not sail at the proposed rates, he could only say, that the honourable gentleman must know more on this subject than the

court of directors, for they were not acquainted with the terms on which the ships were tendered. The hon. gentleman had made a mistake, when he said, that the same thing would occur, ten years hence, if a war came on. He (the Chairman) denied this. It was after a war, immediately when peace was concluded, that the inconvenience arose.—In time of war there was no difficulty whatever, the rates being established and settled ; but it was when war had ceased, and, peace having succeeded, a sufficient time had not elapsed for things to find their natural level—it was then that the inconvenience was felt. But the present shipping system had operated so favourably for the Company, that he thought it much better to put up with a temporary inconvenience than to abandon it.—*(Hear, hear.)*

Mr. *S. Dixon* wished to ask a question which would direct his line of conduct on this occasion. The hon. Chairman proposed to go to parliament, for powers which the court of directors did not at present possess. Now he wanted to know, whether they meant to ask parliament for *specific* allowances to be made to the ship-owners—or, having received the necessary powers, would they reserve to themselves, as he hoped they would, to decide how far each ship was entitled to relief? If a general principle were adopted for all, it would be extremely dangerous—but, if the court of directors exercised their discretion, on each claim, he had no reason to doubt but that justice would be done both to the Company and to the ship-owners.

The *Chairman* observed, that the hon. gentleman had apprehended the thing correctly. It was intended to call on parliament, to give a discretion to the court of directors, under the sanction of the general court, to grant such allowances to the ship-owners as might appear necessary. And, he would add, in order to satisfy some gentlemen, that all those transactions would be completely open to the view of the proprietors. After they had done any thing under the sanction and authority of the court, it would be open to animadversion. Every allowance granted, on account of any ship, would become matter of canvas, if the proprietors pleased.

Mr. *D. Kinnaird* was anxious the court should consider whether it was expedient to come to a decision now? From what had originally fallen from the hon. chairman, there was no foundation for precipitating the decision. And, what the hon. gentleman had recently stated, placed in a stronger point of view, the necessity of delay. The hon. Chairman allowed, that the shipping system should be preserved—therefore, any resolution of exception, which went to prevent that system from being destroyed was wise.—But let the court observe the situation in which they were now placed. They were asked to do that which was done on a former occasion—and, on the precedent then set, they were required to act now. If they immediately agreed to this proposition, they at once sanctioned the precedent. The principle would then be adopted, that, whenever a peace came, after a war, as the hon. Chairman had expressed it, the company must resort to the same mode. He did not mean to say, that it was not wise—but, as they were called on to establish a principle that was to be acted on in future, and as it involved an exception to the general system, he submitted whether it was not more proper to deliberate on it, and come to the result slowly and cautiously, rather than hasten to a vote immediately, on a proposition, the merits of which no gentleman, who heard it now, for the first time, could understand. He, for one, could not give an opinion on it—and, therefore, he requested that time might be allowed him, in order that he might examine the subject. Certainly, the proposition, coming from the court of directors, deserved the most favourable construction—and he felt, that, when he had examined it, he should perfectly agree with them. But, looking to it, as affecting their future proceedings, to come to an immediate decision, when gentlemen had expressed doubts on the subject, would, to say the least of it, be *very indecorous*. He should, therefore, support the suggestion, that the consideration of the proposition should be put off for fourteen days. A laugh had been excited, not very justly, he conceived, at the expression of a gentleman near him (Mr. K. Smith). That expression in his opinion, did the hon. gentleman very great credit. " It is my interest," said he, " to have this relief; and, if other men seek for and get it, I am willing to take it ; but, in this my interest is opposed to yours, the proprietors. I say, as a proprietor, it against your interest to grant it." This declaration gave him the very best reason for questioning the propriety of this relief. The hon. gentleman (Mr. K. Smith) seemed to say, that it was for the benefit of ship-owners, and of all contractors, to keep them to the terms they had proposed. In order to encourage real good capitalists to contract, and not wild and visionary speculators, it was much better to make the contractors now and then feel, that they must not speculate rashly, but send in fair estimates, and perform what they had contracted to do, whether beneficial or not. Those who asked a fair and reasonable rate, were the persons whom the compa-

ny ought to contract with—for there was a moral certainty that they would perform their engagements. They ought rather to deal with a man on a good sound principle, which offered a fair prospect for the fulfilment of the engagement entered into, than take a smaller price, leaving the company at the mercy of those who made the tender, to give up the contract, on paying 5,000 or 10,000l.

Mr. *R. Jackson*. Having heard the papers read, and having attended to the clear and candid statement contained in them, and to the explanation given by the hon. chairman, the question appeared to him to stand thus:—The law, if acted up to, might operate with somewhat of undue severity, and, therefore, the court of directors were anxious to administer relief, under the circumstances of the case. The court had not yet had an opportunity of perusing the opinion of his hon. and learned friend (Mr. Bosanquet) on the point propounded to him. But, he believed, as far as he was acquainted with the act, that the court of directors could not proceed without legislative authority. Therefore, if he understood the hon. chairman rightly, it was intended to apply to the legislature, not for any specific allowance, but to enable the court of directors, under the powers called for, to exercise their discretion, and act with equity, under all the circumstances of the case. It might be questioned, whether this was a dangerous power to place in the hands of the directors, since it went to alter a system that had been acted on for twenty years. He confessed he spoke with something like a practical feeling, (and he believed the same feeling was entertained by others) which he had spent so many years of his youth, in bringing forward and maturing. He was most anxious that it should be preserved. He precisely hoped that it would be kept up, because on its stability depended the great question, whether America or England should be the traders to the East Indies. —(*Hear, hear.*) Therefore, he looked with a strong jealousy, he trusted with a laudable jealousy, to any proposition which tended to alter it. This resolution might appear to some to be an infraction of that principle which he was as careful and as anxious as he could be to preserve. It therefore came to this, whether the power sought for by the court of directors should be given on the mere ceremony of reading those papers, or whether individuals should have an opportunity of reading and examining them, in order that they might be satisfied, that the bill or act demanded, was as pure and perfect in itself, as he understood it was. To urge this as a question would be useless—because the wish of the directors, in a case like this, would certainly be the feeling of the majority of proprietors. He therefore would take the liberty humbly to advise, that the delay of a few days should be granted. He did so, on two grounds, —first, that the most jealous should be satisfied that the great principle of the shipping system was not likely to be infringed—and next, that contractors should learn, that they were not, too lightly, to be relieved from the fulfilment of their contracts; for, when over, they thought they had nothing to do, but to get their claim for relief attended to by the directors, and that they would then pass through the court of proprietors, almost *per forma*, they would not care what low prices they tendered.—(*Hear, hear.*) As surely as the concession of 1803, was now quoted as an authority for remission, so surely would the present request, if too lightly granted, be quoted for remission on some future occasion; and, instead of having fair tenders, all kinds of contractors and speculators would send in proposals, which, they were conscious would not remunerate them; and they would depend on getting their claims to compensation easily passed through the court of proprietors, by which a good profit would be ultimately secured. For these two reasons, he begged leave to advise (and he felt that he would have the sanction of every gentleman present for offering the suggestion) that a future day should be appointed for considering the question. In his opinion, it was most proper that delay should take place, since it would shew to the persons calling for relief, that their demand would not be complied with, except on mature deliberation—and it would give gentlemen, not conversant with the subject, an opportunity of investigating it, and thus enable them to decide correctly on the proposition. With these feelings, he hoped a few days would be granted for the consideration of the papers.

The *Chairman* believed he could say with perfect correctness, that the court of directors did not come forward, to state any proposition against the sense of the proprietors. If it were the wish of the court to delay this matter for a short time, there certainly could be no objection to it. At the same time, he begged leave to state, that the court of directors had offered to the consideration of the proprietors the resolution that had been read, because, in the former case, of 1803, there was but one deliberation on it. Besides there was this point to be considered—that the present *direction* was leading to a close, and it was better, in his opinion, that those persons, under whom the business had originated, should finish it, than to leave it open for discussion, at a remote period. If, therefore, any near approaching day were proposed,

he thought it would be more proper than that already mentioned. He was extremely glad to hear that the learned gentleman (Mr. R. Jackson,) continued so staunch to that system which he had so long supported; and he could assure the learned gentleman, that he felt very considerable difficulty in bringing forward the motion before the court; but he did so in consequence of the strong conviction he felt, that it was the only mode which remained to keep those vessels afloat, that were specially built for the service of the company.

Mr. *D. Kinnaird* proposed that the consideration of the motion should be postponed to Wednesday se'nnight.

Mr. *Hume*,—"I hope the opinion of our standing counsel will then be laid before us."

The *Chairman*,—"The learned counsel's opinion is now here; he clearly thinks that we must go to parliament."

The motion for postponing the consideration of the question to Wednesday, the 27th of March, was then agreed to.

MANDAMUS TO THE COURT OF DIRECTORS.

The *Chairman* said, before the court broke up, he wished to address the proprietors on a question of a nature very different from any that had heretofore been introduced to their notice. It was a question of *power* between the board of commissioners for managing the affairs of India, and the court of directors.—*(Hear, hear.)* That board had been instituted for thirty years; and an event had lately taken place, nothing similar to which, had, during that time, before occurred. The directors had been served with a *mandamus* from the Court of King's Bench, commanding them to send out a certain dispatch to India, which they had previously refused to do; they, and their legal advisers, maintaining, that the board of controul, in altering the dispatch in question, had gone beyond their legal powers. The dispatch related to the allotment of money, in a case of purchase. The commodity purchased was rice. The court of directors had, from the commencement, but one opinion on this subject. On many other questions they had manifested a difference of opinion; but, with respect to the point at issue between the board of controul and the court of directors, but one sentiment prevailed—namely, that the board were going beyond the limit prescribed to them by the law, in altering a dispatch which related to the private money concern of the company.—*(Hear, hear.)* On this ground they had resisted the transmission of the dispatch to India, for seven or eight years. For a considerable time after they first opposed this stretch of authority on the part of the board of controul, the question remained entirely dormant. It was again raised by the board, about three years ago, and at length came to an issue, in the only possible way. The board of controul applied to the King's Bench for *its* interference; and from thence the case, as respected the nature of the dispatch, was brought before the privy council. They decided in favour of the board of controul; and the consequence was, that a *mandamus* was issued forth, directing the executive body to send the dispatch out to India. They were, of course, obliged to comply with that direction, But, as the court of directors thought it their duty to be tenacious of the powers granted to them by law—powers of a very limited description, and apt to be trenched on by the superior authority of the board of controul; they felt it necessary in the present case, that the whole proceedings should be laid before the proprietors. The circumstance was so remarkable, as to render it improper that it should be passed over in silence; therefore the directors had brought it under the notice of the court.—*(Hear, hear.)* The papers connected with this affair were prepared for the inspection of the court of proprietors. They were very voluminous, commencing at an early period; for the transaction that had given rise to the question of power, took place sixteen or eighteen years ago. If gentlemen wished, therefore, to go minutely into the business, they must look back to that period. The series of documents would be opened for their examination. It comprised the correspondence between the board of controul and the court of directors, and every other proceeding down to the present moment. Among the more recent documents was an act of the court of directors, minuting their reasons, at some length, for the conduct they had pursued. It involved a question, connected with the proceedings of an individual, formerly in the company's service; but that was a point of minor consideration; and they wished to bring the matter under the consideration of the court of proprietors, without reference to it, and merely as a question of power. If it were found, on inspecting those papers, that the board of controul had, in the judgment of the proprietors, transgressed their limits, it would be satisfactory to the directors to find themselves upheld by their constituents, in the course they had so long pursued, as that which their duty called on them to adopt.—*(Hear, hear.)* With respect to the issue, it did appear, from the decree of the privy council, that the dispatch, altered by the board of controul, related to the civil and military affairs of the company, and, therefore came within the jurisdiction of the board, as provided for in the act of parliament.

The court of directors, however, maintained, that it was a question of money, which they alone had in their hands, and over which the board had legally no power whatever. And they resisted the power of that body to put their hands into the company's purse on any occasion.—*(Hear, hear.)* This was the main feature of the dispute. As he had observed before, it was a question of power; and, having stated these facts to the proprietors, he had only further to say, that the papers necessary to a full understanding of the case were now ready. It remained with the proprietors to express their wish, either to have them exhibited, in the house, in manuscript, or to have them printed, if they were not too voluminous. He should now sit down anxious to hear the sentiments of the court on the subject he had introduced.

Mr. *Hume*.—"I understood it was the intention of the court of directors that the papers alluded to should be read."

The *Chairman*.—"That might be thought an *ex parte* proceeding. This is a case in which it was necessary to enter very much into the conduct of the individual whose proceedings gave rise to the question. In stating their view of it, the directors were obliged to go, at considerable length, into a narrative of the fact. They wished, however, not to bear hard on that individual, but merely to speak to the question of power, and the proceedings that had given rise to it. The course pursued by the board of controul was a very extraordinary one; and the directors not only wished the proprietors, but the public to know it.

Mr. *Hume* said, the resolution of the court of directors ought to be read, on this very ground. He considered the present to be a question of vital importance. It was simply this—whether the company were to exist or not? *(Hear, hear.)*—whether they are to have power, directly or indirectly, to manage their finances? And whether it was or was not necessary to keep his majesty's ministers, not merely to the tenor, but to the express letter of the law, as it was almost universally understood, and had been acted on up to the present time? How had it been understood? That it debarred the board of control from all interference with the pecuniary affairs of the company. Every gentleman, he was convinced, who heard the resolution of the court of directors read, would feel that the present was a case that called for an open, decided, and manly expression of the determination of the proprietors to support their executive body.—*(Hear, hear.)* If they did not do so, their attendance in that court was useless.—*(Hear, hear.)* He therefore submitted to the proprietors, that they should have the resolution of the court of directors read, for their satisfaction and information. If it was thought that it contained partial reflections on the individual from whose case this business had arisen, he would request the court to suspend any opinion they might be inclined to form on those points, and to confine themselves to the abstract question between the board of control, and the court of directors. He had read the resolution, and he thought it contained some passages that might have been left out. But their introduction had evidently been occasioned by the anxious wish of the directors to go to the very beginning of the transaction, and to give to the proprietors the fullest possible information. He submitted that this document ought to be read—and then it would be for the court to determine, whether the whole correspondence between the court of directors and the board of control, limiting it entirely to the exertion of power, without any reference to the conduct in India, of the individual so often alluded to, should be laid before them. They would then have to decide, whether the board of control had a right to interfere with any power, or to alter any dispatch about to be sent out to India, respecting money matters? This duty the proprietors would have to perform, both as it was connected with their own interests, and with those of the country at large. He had seen some of the correspondence, and every letter that he had perused strongly supported the course taken by the directors, and clearly proved the right they had to object to the conduct of the board of control. Indeed, so conclusive were the arguments, that he was at a loss to see the smallest ground on which his majesty in council could call on the directors to obey the orders of the board of control, in relation to this dispatch. The documents should, he conceived, be read—and then, at a future day, no very remote one he hoped, the court could deliberate on the subject, and pass such resolutions as might appear proper. They ought, as far as the court had an opportunity of doing so, to let his majesty's ministers know, that they were not to act contrary to the fair meaning of the act of the legislature. They might appeal to his majesty in council; but even he, elevated as his situation was, had no right to decide on any other foundation, but that of the law—he ought, in every instance, to act up to the spirit of the law.—*(Hear, hear.)* The trifling expense of printing the papers was nothing, when compared with the immense magnitude of the point in dispute; and, when the resolution was read, he really believed, that there was not an individual in the court who would object to having the *whole* of the corres-

pondence, as far as it respected the question of power, laid before them.

Mr. *Lowndes* said, as this question affected the rights of the company—and as it was important that the land-marks of the power belonging to the board of control, should be fixed—he hoped the subject would be discharged in a calm and impartial manner. He trusted they would neither lean too much to their feelings, as proprietors; nor, on the other hand, from sentiments of friendship, or from an overwhelming zeal, an ardent loyalty, look with too lenient an eye upon the conduct of His Majesty's ministers. It was their duty to steer clear of *Scylla* and *Charybdis*.—*(a laugh)* A few days ago, however, he had been carried away to express his opinion freely in their favour—not because he felt that burning loyalty he had alluded to, but because he thought the *property-tax* was a very good one.—*(laughter and hisses.)* Be that as it might, he hoped the company would now make a gallant stand against the board of control, and show them that they would maintain their first rights, in spite of every attempt to contract their power. This attempt of the board of control ought to be watched with the utmost jealousy—for, of all the passions of the human mind, the love of power was the most general and the most violent. Like air, it entered into every thing. Our private quarrels were all about power. Even the domestic disputes between man and wife were occasioned by a desire of superiority—they were mere struggles for power.—*(laughter.)* The love of power, like the brazen serpent, was disposed to swallow up the rest of the passions. The court therefore ought to consider this question, as the hon. gentleman (Mr. Hume) had observed, as affecting the vital interests of the company. The point in dispute was, whether they should exist as a company, holding a lease, on certain condition; or whether the board of control should invalidate that lease, and alter it, *nolens volens*, at their pleasure? The company existed under an act of parliament; and he trusted they would always adhere to, and defend, their rights, whether they were assailed by the administration of the country, or by any other persons. The court would, he had no doubt, consider the subject, like judges on the bench, in a candid and impartial manner—neither calling for powers that did not belong to them, nor giving up a single *iota* of their just rights. It would be most dangerous if any part of their authority was wrested from them; for, there was an old saying, that, if you gave an inch to a certain description of persons, they would assuredly take an ell.—*(a laugh.)* He called on the court to look to the dreadful effects which the thirst of power had produced in Europe, during the last twenty years. The events which the history of that period recorded, shewed the necessity of opposing every stretch of authority, in the first instance. The court ought not, and would not, give up a particle of the power which was entrusted to their executive, but would, to the last moment, assert their just rights.

Mr. *Trower* believed there was but one opinion in that court, as to the necessity of bringing this question under consideration. After the statement which had been made, they were bound to investigate the transaction. They owed it to the gentlemen behind the bar—they owed it to themselves—and they equally owed it to the country in general. The question, therefore, was, in what tangible shape could the subject be brought before the court? Many gentlemen would not like to wade through the immense body of documents, which had accumulated in eighteen or nineteen years—*(hear, hear.)*—therefore he thought it would be better if an abstract were made, so as to enable the proprietors to become acquainted with all the essential points of the case.—*(hear, hear.)* It was, as the hon. chairman had very truly observed, a question of *power*. And experience had too often shewn, that the board of control wished, whenever an opportunity occurred, to overstep the bounds of the act of parliament, by which their authority was defined.—*(hear, hear.)*—The court should, therefore, exercise great jealousy in looking at this transaction. They knew that their court of directors had but one object, and that was in unison with the feelings of the proprietors; but they also knew, that it was a very possible case for the board of control to have views extremely different. He, therefore, desired, that an abstract of the correspondence should be laid before them, which would bring the question under their consideration, in a tangible shape.

Mr. *Hume*—"The necessary documents are not so numerous as the hon. gentleman seems to suppose. The first letter is dated the 30th of May, 1808; there are also letters written in 1809, 1812, and 1814—so that eight or nine letters comprise the whole subject."

Mr. *Drew* said, the simple question seemed to be,—the court of directors having exercised their discretion, and that having been overruled by the board of control, sanctioned by the court of King's Bench, and by the King in council, whether the proprietors could now take any step? It was his opinion, that the privy council having decided on the question, and the court of King's Bench having granted a *mandamus*, it was too late for them to say that the board had as

much power as that which they contended for. However tenacious the proprietors might be of their rights, their proceedings could only end now in their united approbation of the conduct pursued by the directors—they could not alter the charter, nor the law as it has been expounded.

The *Chairman* said, they had no such expectation. On the contrary, he had stated, that the dispatch ordered to be sent out by the board of control, and the court of King's Bench, was in progress to go to India. They did not hope for a reversal of the judgment. But, as the directors were placed in the extraordinary and most unpleasant situation of having a *mandamus* served on them from the court of King's Bench, and as gentlemen might very naturally ask, how did you get into that situation? it was considered right that the subject should be brought before the proprietors in the way which he had stated. It was not intended by the directors to bear hard on the individual who had given rise to the whole question. They had acted in that manner which appeared to them to be correct; and, if the case of that person were again to be tried, they certainly would bring forward every thing he had adduced in his defence, as well as the reasons which induced the court of directors to decide as they had done. But, in bringing the question of power before the court, it was impossible to do that exactly. They had only a choice of difficulties; they wished to state the circumstances to the proprietors, as fully as possible, and then to submit it to their wisdom, to act as they pleased. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Hume) stated, that the subject was fully comprised in five or six letters, The letters alluded to were, undoubtedly, proper to be read, but they did not go sufficiently into the merits of the case. They went to support the principles stated in the document drawn up by the directors which had been frequently alluded to. The court of directors were not, therefore, anxious that their view of the question should be read, in the first instance, lest they might be accused of a wish to prepossess the proprietors. If, however, gentlemen desired to have an outline of the facts, that document certainly did contain one.

Mr. *D. Kinnaird* observed, that this subject having been once mentioned by the hon. chairman, no doubt could be entertained of the propriety of its being taken up by the court. The question having been introduced, it appeared that something more than a mere statement of facts ought to come from the chair. Some substantive proposition ought to be made—or some act of the court of directors should be laid before the proprietors—on which the motion for printing papers might properly be entertained. That motion, he thought, ought to proceed from the directors themselves, in order to bring the question directly under the consideration of the court. The objection made to reading the resolution of the court of directors, shewed that they felt a strong indisposition to prejudice the case, by introducing to the proprietors an officer who had fallen under the censure of the company. But it was a question, whether, having disclaimed that object, such declaration would not satisfy the friends of the hon. officer, and induce them to suffer that document to be read. If the resolution were read, their course would then be quite clear and straight forward. If, however, any objection were opposed to laying it before the court, they might, by a very simple proceeding, obviate the difficulty. Any gentleman, having heard that a *mandamus* had been directed to the executive body, might request that all papers, relative to the case which ended in that *mandamus*, should be printed for the use of the proprietors; taking care that none were produced but those which were absolutely necessary. The straight forward way seemed to be, that the court of directors should announce that they had received a *mandamus*, and that they had, in consequence, entered into a resolution, which being read, they could then hunt the subject up to its origin.

Mr. *R. Jackson* said, the mode of proceeding was extremely simple. The court of directors had thought it right to put together a statement of facts to justify themselves to their constituents; but, they observed, that this statement was open to the charge of being *ex parte*. From the nature of the thing, it must be so—it was impossible that it could be otherwise. Of course many documents were referred to, that would bring under the notice of the court the conduct of an officer who had fallen under the displeasure of the company. But the thing being done, it appeared to him that the document should be read. The business could not stop here—it must be resolved to bring it under the consideration of the court in one way or another, The hon. Chairman might for instance, state at large, by way of speech, the various facts that led to the question. But surely it was the shortest way to have the resolution read, which embraced all the necessary points. There could be no impropriety in it, because it referred to an individual whose conduct was closely connected with the original proceeding.—Those who heard the resolution read, would learn what documents were necessary to be moved for, in order to consider the case candidly and justly with

reference to all parties. But it did appear to him that they could not move for the proper papers until the resolution was read. It was not very long, but it was highly interesting—and gentlemen being once in possession of it, would know how to conduct themselves in the future stages of the discussion.

Mr. S. *Dixon* said, no man deferred more to the opinion of another than he did to that of his learned friend—but, on this occasion, he was compelled to hold different sentiments from those which his learned friend supported. If the papers were to be printed, he thought none of them ought to be read this day. The subject which was recently before them, and which respected compensation, was put off on account of its great importance. It was not, however, near so important as that which was now under consideration. He, therefore, hoped that a similar course would be pursued here. Let the resolution, and all the necessary papers be printed; and on some future day, when all the proprietors, not only those who were present, but those who were absent, had made themselves acquainted with the subject, it could be most advantageously brought forward. He thought it would hardly be fair, that he, or any other gentleman, should leave the court, after having heard a single document read, with an impression, that would not, perhaps, be borne out by the papers, when laid before them. He hoped, therefore, that no document would be read, this day—but that the resolution, and the papers on which it was founded, should be ordered to be printed, preparatory to the regular discussion of the question.

Mr. *Trower* said, that, in the observations which he had taken the liberty to make, he was completely misunderstood, if it was thought that he objected to reading the resolution, or report, of the court of directors. When he spoke, he imagined that it was intended to read it.—*(Hear, hear.)* From what he had since heard stated, he was still farther persuaded of the propriety of that report being laid before them. It would be more regular, perhaps, that the *mandamus* should precede the report. By that means they would have some ground on which they could move for the production of papers necessary for the use of the proprietors. So far from objecting to the reading of the report, he thought they ought, without delay, to be placed in possession of it.

Mr. *P. Moore*, M. P. said, on a former question, that of compensation to be granted to the ship-owners, a day was appointed for the consideration of the subject; and he did not know why a future period should not be set apart for the discussion of this question. When he requested that the papers should be laid before them, it was more for the convenience of others than for his own, because he had already made himself acquainted with the question. He had read, with attention, the document drawn up by the directors, purporting to be "the protest of the executive trust against the proceedings of his majesty's ministers." The statement which it contained filled him with the utmost alarm for the very existence of the company. If the principle laid down by the board of control was not resisted with as much determination as their meditated encroachment, in 1804,—(when he Mr. *Moore*) took an active part in the discussion, occasioned by the commissioners introducing the word "*commercial*" into one of the company's dispatches)—the administration of the affairs of their military establishment—of their treasury—and of their revenue—would be taken out of their hands. This would certainly be the case, unless the principle was successfully opposed. It therefore became the court not to dispose of this question, on the mere reading of the resolution adverted to. Whenever the court came to read the dispatch, and to mark the alteration that had been made in it, they would clearly see their danger, and they would know how to estimate the talents and integrity of those who endeavoured to avert it.—*(Hear, hear.)*—They would applaud the proceedings of their directors—they would rally around them—and they would use every effort to bring them through the struggle manfully. *(Hear, hear.)* If they did not act thus, they would have but an imperfect jurisdiction over the affairs of India—they would have but little control over the expenditure of their own property. He would now state to the court, from what he had read on the preceding day, how the facts of the case stood. A dispatch was ordered, by the board of control, to be sent out to India. The court of directors refused obedience to the order, because it was a dispatch that ought not to be sent out, as it assumed a jurisdiction over the affairs of the company, which was not warranted by the legislature. The Board of Control, however, maintained their point—and the executive trust, in consequence, appealed to the king in council; and the question was decided against the company. But who were they who came to this decision? The very parties who, in another department, originally ordered the dispatch to be transmitted to India.—*(Hear, hear.)* Having done that, the propriety of which was questioned, as members of another department of state, they met together, and approved of their own act. Such was the decision that took place—which he would contend, proceeded on a misinterpretation of the act of parliament; it assumed a jurisdiction dan-

gerous to the company, and no less dangerous to the empire; and gave the board of control an authority which they ought not to possess, because they were not entitled to it. The next step was the *mandamus*. Now here he must observe, that the judges of the court of King's Bench had no right to be guided by the decision of the king in council. They ought to have looked to the act of parliament, by which the question was governed, and to have given it its just interpretation. But they did not do this—no, they assumed that the decision of the king in council was correct, and on that they turned to the directors and said, "you must send this dispatch to India." Here they were completely at issue with his majesty's ministers—with those gentlemen who approved, in one department of the state, of an act they had authorised in another. They were, although they appeared in different departments, the self-same men. Although on one day they might wear green coats, and on another black, they were still the same men, and had very modestly approved of their own proceeding. In 1804, in Lord Sidmouth's administration, which, like the present, was fond of encroaching on the company's rights, an attempt, something like the present, was made. In that case, the board of control introduced the word "*commercial*" into a dispatch, which occasioned one or two very lively debates in that court. The company said, "this jurisdiction belongs to us—the act of parliament bears us out in it." On the other hand, the board of control defended their right to amend the dispatch. The proprietors felt the same alarm then, as he hoped, they would now feel, towards the important question that had been agitated. They rallied round the executive body, and they completely succeeded in putting down the ministers, and averting the baneful effects that must inevitably have been produced by their interference. These constant efforts to deprive the company of their legitimate authority reminded him of the story of a Mahometan in India, who set his eye on the garden of a poor Hindoo. The latter being unwilling either to sell, to give up, or to lend his garden, the Mahometan, determined to possess it, threw some bullocks blood over the ground, and soon compelled the Hindoo to abandon his possession. In the case he had alluded to, the word "*commercial*" was the bullock's blood, with which the board of control had thought proper to pollute the dispatch; but they were obliged, in consequence of the firmness displayed by the court, to cleanse it again. The protest, Mr. Moore observed, was so honourable to the abilities of the executive trust—it was drawn up with so much perspicuity, and gave so clear and perfect a view of the case—that, if it were not too long, he hoped it would be read to the court.—(*Hear, hear.*) But he did most seriously implore every proprietor, who wished to put an end to the improper assumption of power, by the board of control, to come to the India house, and read the whole of the papers on which the protest was built. To see, first, whether it was fully sanctioned by the documents—and next, to mark the ability of those by whom it was drawn up; in opposition to the efforts of the board of control, which appeared to him to be completely unjustifiable. He trusted, that nothing would be left undone to raise the minds of the proprietors to that *zenith* of alarm, which the occasion called for—since it appeared to him, that if such dangerous encroachments were not resisted, in time, the company would soon be destroyed altogether.

Mr. *Drew* could not help considering, that the decision of the king in council, and the proceedings of the court of King's Bench, had completely settled this question. He could not assume, as a fact, indeed he could not think, that the judges of the court of King's Bench would proceed to issue a *mandamus*, without examining the act of parliament. Therefore, in his opinion, the reading of the whole of the protest could answer no good purpose. If the subject were laid before the proprietors—which in effect was this:—that the board of control ordered a dispatch to be sent out to India, which the directors refused to transmit—that the question was discussed, and a decision being given against them, they were directed to forward the dispatch;—all this being known, what could the proprietors do more than offer their thanks to the executive body for their conduct!

The *Chairman*.—"We are not bringing before this court, the question, whether the *mandamus* shall be obeyed or not—or any other question of law; but we wish to place our conduct under the view of the proprietors. Having stated the nature of the question, it is for the court to say, whether they will have any papers read or not. " (*Loud cries of Read! Read!*)

The clerk then read the following protest.

"The court taking into consideration the writ of mandamus issued by his Majesty's court of King's Bench, commanding the court of directors to despatch and send without further delay, to the governor in council of Fort St. George, the Madras military draft No. 177, relative to major Hart, as altered and approved by the board of commissioners for the affairs of India:

"Resolved unanimously, That this court having urged to the board of commission-

ers for the affairs of India, the reasons which induced them to entertain a strong opinion against the propriety and justice of the orders which they are now commanded to send to Fort St. George; and this court, by their counsel, having also urged to the court of King's Bench, and before the lords of his Majesty's most honourable privy council, the arguments on which this court has been advised that the matter of those orders is in no way subject to the authority of the board of commissioners; and there being no appeal from the decision of his royal highness the Prince Regent, acting in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty in council, this court ought not to avoid, and cannot lawfully avoid, obedience to the mandatory process with which they have been served, and therefore will forthwith sign and forward the dispatch therein referred to, according to the exigency of the writ. Nevertheless, as reflection has only strengthened the opinion of this court on the merits of the case of major Hart, and as the forms of proceedings before the privy council do not admit of this court's being acquainted with their reasons for adopting a construction of the powers of the board of commissioners, directly opposite to the principles on which they were originally professed to be established, this court consider that their duty imperiously requires that they should record, by way of protest under their hands, a statement of the leading facts on the matter in question, with some of their reasons for differing entirely from the board of commissioners, and for humbly presuming to doubt, whether the advice which his royal highness has received is not an instance of the fallibility of that tribunal, to which alone the court of directors are entitled to appeal for redress against illegal interference of the board of commissioners.

"In the month of December 1798, major Hart, then a captain in the military service of the company on the Fort St. George establishment, was appointed by the governor in council of Fort St. George to be commissary of grain to the army then about to proceed, under the command of lieutenant-general George Harris (now lord Harris), against Seringapatam, in the war with the late Tippoo Sultaun. The appointment was made upon the express condition, that the commissary was not, on any account, directly or indirectly, to derive any other advantage or emolument from the said situation, than the salary paid by the government of Fort St. George. The salary assigned to major Hart was 500 pagodas (equal to £200 sterling) per month, with an allowance of 434 pagodas (equal to £173. 12*s.*) per month for servants. It was the duty of the commissary of grain to take charge of the store of public rice, provided for the use of the fighting men of the army, to be delivered out for their consumption from time to time, according to order; but the bullock drivers, and other persons of that description, not fighting men, and usually denominated followers, employed by and under the commissary of grain, were not entitled to any rice from the public stores. They were to provide rice for themselves; or were to receive it, in lieu of money, from a separate stock provided by the commissary of grain, for the use of the followers in his own department. Previously to the march of the army, twenty garce, being equal to ninety-six thousand seers of rice, were delivered to major Hart from the company's stores of rice in the neighbourhood of Fort St. George, for the use of his followers. This rice, including boat-hire, cooly-hire, and other charges, was procured at an expence of one rupee (equal in value to half a crown) for more than fifteen seers, each seer being equal to something less than two pounds avoirdupois; so that the rice supplied by the company to major Hart, cost about one penny sterling per pound. The army assembled at Vellore, distant between ninety and a hundred miles from Fort St. George, in the month of January 1799. It marched from thence on the 11th February, and arrived and encamped before Seringapatam on the 5th April in that year, when the place was immediately invested. During the siege, on the 16th day of April 1799, it was unexpectedly discovered, that there was a most alarming deficiency in the quantity of grain which was supposed to have been in camp; and in particular it appeared, by a calculation annexed by major Hart to an official report made by him on that day, that the rice in his possession, as commissary of grain, was only sufficient for the fighting men of the army for eighteen days at half allowance, and the deficiency in the bazar, or market of the camp, was to a degree amounting to famine. When this deficiency was discovered, major Hart made no disclosure whatever that he was in possession of any grain other than the grain in the public store, of which a return had been made; but on the 22d April, six days after this alarming discovery, he stated, through the means of colonel Macleod, to major-general Macauly, then holding the rank of captain, the private secretary of the commander-in-chief of the army, that he had in his possession a considerable quantity of private rice, which he stated that he had provided for the eventual consumption of the followers in his department, and which the major wished to sell for the use of the army.

"This communication was received

by lord Harris with extreme surprize. A detachment under general Lloyd had been dispatched, under the full impression of probable want, and every species of grain bore the most exorbitant price, from the increasing scarcity and consequent distress of the followers of the army. But the exigency of the service admitted of no alternative, and his lordship was rejoiced at the unexpected discovery of a supply, at a moment when the success of the siege was at great hazard by reason of the supposed deficiency, and he ordered the commissary of grain to take the rice which he offered for sale, into his official custody, and to bring it on his returns accordingly; but no orders were given, nor was any agreement made, as to the terms upon which it was to be applied to the public service. The quantity of rice so brought to the public account was 106,000 seers.

"Very shortly after the capture of Seringapatam, lord Harris appointed a committee of officers to enquire into the causes of the deficiency of grain; and on the 3d of June 1799, major Hart was examined before this committee. His conduct was arraigned by the governor of Fort St. George, in respect to the grain he offered and supplied to the public use. He wrote an elaborate defence, and adduced several affidavits in support of it. In the course of his examination before the committee at Seringapatam, and in the affidavits which he sent up to the government, he and his witnesses made several material statements and admissions, *viz.* That he purchased, by the agency of his brother in Madras, in the Baramahl, in the Nizam's bazars, and from the benjarries, as opportunities offered, about twenty-seven garce of rice; that two natives, who have each made an affidavit, were his agents in the purchase; that the rice purchased was carried upon bullocks purchased and hired by himself, and that in some instances he availed himself of some spare bullocks in the government pay; and that of the twenty-seven garce so purchased, twenty-two garce thirty-three mercals and four seers arrived at Seringapatam. He stated, that he could not produce to the committee any document relating to the purchase; and assigned, as the reason why he had not any document relative to the purchase, that he had purchased the rice in the manner above mentioned.

"It is here to be noted, that major Hart no where states, that he cannot furnish an account of the cost of the rice: on the contrary, if it be true that he purchased by means of his brother and the native agents, their accounts would shew the cost. Moreover it is to be noted, that he did not allege that he purchased any at Seringapatam, when the scarcity of rice in the camp amounted to a severe famine. It is further to be noted, that major Hart states, that in some instances he used the government bullocks for carriage of his rice. By referring to these statements of Major Hart, and the persons whose affidavits he produced, the court of directors do not mean to include themselves by an admission of their truth.

"On the 20th day of March 1800, by order of the right honourable the earl of Powis, then governor of Fort St. George, in council, with the privity and by the direction of the most honourable the marquis of Wellesley, then the governor-general of Fort William, in Bengal, in council, major Hart was suspended from the service of the company, until the pleasure of the court of directors should be known. The general orders published by the government of Fort St. George upon the occasion were as follow:

"" *Fort St. George, 20th March*, 1800.
"G. O. by Government.—Major Thomas "Hart having been appointed to be com-"missary of grain, was allowed a liberal "salary at the public expense, in consi-"deration of which, the regulations for "the conduct of his department provid-"ed that he should derive no other "emolument or advantage whatever.

"Major Hart, having, however, made "an offer indirectly to the private secre-"tary of the commander-in-chief, of a "considerable quantity of grain, stated "to be his private property, at a very cri-"tical period of the siege of Seringapa-"tam, an enquiry was instituted by order "of the right honourable the governor-"general in council, into the circum-"stances of this transaction and of the "conduct of major Hart.

"" On mature consideration of the "proceedings held in consequence, as "well as of the defence and explanation "offered by major Hart, the governor in "council has been concerned to observe, "that the result, even on the admissions "of that officer himself, proves that ma-"jor Hart's conduct has been incompa-"tible with a fair and honourable dis-"charge of his public duties; wherefore "the right honourable the governor in "council, by and with the sanction and "authority of the right honourable the "governor general in council, publishes "to the army his lordship's detestation "of those principles, on which an officer, "confidentially trusted and liberally re-"warded, could, contrary to his boun-"den duty, avail himself of his public "situation to benefit his private fortune, "under the public exigencies arising "from deficiencies in the very depart-"ment intrusted to his special care.

"" The right honourable the governor "in council reflects with conscious satis-

"faction on the liberal provision which "was made for every branch in the "equipment of the army for the late "campaign; and as the right honoura-"ble the governor-general proposed an "object worthy of its discipline and gal-"lantry, so his lordship omitted no care "or expense in guarding the safety of "the troops from the danger of deficient "supplies. Among those arrangements, "the selection of an officer, worthy to "be trusted with the department of "grain, was not the least important; "and the governor in council is deeply "concerned, that while the personal ex-"ertions and abilities manifested by ma-"jor Hart have amply justified the selec-"tion of that officer, his abuse of those "qualifications compels his lordship to "exhibit him to the observation of the "army under these circumstances, and "to signify the orders of the right ho-"nourable the governor-general in coun-"cil for the suspension of major Hart "from the service of the company.

" "Major Hart is hereby accordingly "suspended from the honourable com-"pany's service, until the pleasure of "the court of directors shall be known.

"By order of the right honourable the "governor general in council.

(Signed) "J. WEBBE,
"Secretary to Government."

"On the 1st April 1801, the court of directors dismissed major Hart from the service of the company. The grounds of this resolution were expressly stated to be, that the conduct of major Hart had been inconsistent with a fair and honourable discharge of his duty as an officer, by having carried grain on his own account to Seringapatam, with a view to derive emolument therefrom, in direct defiance of the terms on which he was appointed to his office.

"On the dismission of major Hart it was deemed proper to allow him the prime cost and charges of the rice, which was applied, as above-mentioned, to the public service; and on the 17th August 1803, the government of Fort St. George were directed to make such reimbursement. The government of Fort St. George wrote home for explanation of the instructions which they had received, in consequence of which the court of directors, on the 27th August 1807, caused the draft of further instructions thereon to be prepared. This draft is numbered 177, and so far as it relates to the question which had led to the writ of mandamus is as follows. "And as it appears to us "impossible to ascertain the price of the "grain in question, in this country, we "have resolved to refer it to be settled "at Madras; we accordingly direct, "that upon major Hart or his attorney "producing satisfactory vouchers to "shew the prime cost of the grain, and "of whom purchased, with all charges "incurred thereon previous to its deli-"very for the public use, the amount "shall be paid, with simple interest "thereon at eight per cent per annum, "on major Hart, or his attorney, giving "a discharge, in full of all demands upon "the company on account of the grain so "delivered."

"The board of commissioners disapproved this paragraph, and prepared another to be substituted for it. On the 30th May 1808, the substituted paragraph was returned to the court of directors to be forwarded to Madras, as an order of the company, and is as follows:—"We "have attended to the correspondence "which took place between your govern-"ment and the military board, referred "to in your letter of the 8th March 1805, "relative to the directions contained "in our dispatch of the 17th August, "1803, concerning the payment to be "made to major Hart on account of "106,000 seers of rice supplied by him "for the public service at Seringapatam, "in the year 1799: and as it appears "impossible to ascertain precisely the "cost and charges of the grain in questi-"on, from the causes mentioned in *your* "letter, we have resolved to adopt the "valuation of one rupee per seer, which "the military board have submitted as "the lowest market price at the time the "rice was delivered; and we accordingly "authorise you to pay the amount there-"of to major Hart, or his attorney. In "specifying that rate, however, which "far exceeds the ordinary price, we are "guided solely by the suggestion of the "military board; and as major Hart "was expressly precluded by his instruc-"tions from deriving any other advan-"tage or emolument than the salary fix-"ed by government, directly or indirect-"ly, from his situation as commissary of "grain, and as we do not wish to devi-"ate from that rule in the sum now to "be paid to him, we desire that you will "make such inquiry and investigation, "respecting the probable costs and "charges of the rice, including wastage, "carriage, and all other contingent ex-"pences, as the circumstances of the "case, and the length of time which has "elapsed, will now admit: and if the "result should induce you to believe, "that the price of one rupee per seer is "beyond what may fairly be considered "as a full indemnification to major Hart, "exclusive of any gain or profit to him "by the transaction, you will make such "deduction from the above-mentioned "rate as may appear to you proper and "reasonable. You will also allow sim-"ple interest at eight per cent., on what-"ever sum you shall determine to be due

"to major Hart, to be computed from "the time of the delivery of the grain, "to the time at which payment shall be "made, taking from him or his agent a "discharge in full for all demands upon "the company on account of the grain "so delivered."

"On the 11th February 1809, the court of directors remonstrated against the substituted paragraph; and as the board of commissioners were not convinced by the reasons offered against the expediency of their alteration, the court of directors, under the advice of eminent council, given in an opinion dated 4th March 1809, refused to send out the dispatch as altered, because the court of directors apprehended that the board of commissioners had no legal authority to make the alteration which they had introduced. Some verbal communications upon the subject took place between the two gentlemen who then filled the chairs of the company and lord Melville, then president of the board of commissioners: the result was, a clear impression upon the minds of the court of directors that the business was dropped.

"Thus the matter rested for above three years, when, on the 12th June 1812, the board of commissioners reminded the court of directors that the dispatch had not been sent out. On the 23d June, 1814, the court of directors were again called upon to inform the board of commissioners what steps they had taken on this subject; and the court of directors thereupon again apprised the board, that they denied the right of the board to impose upon the directors the orders to be conveyed by the altered paragraph. On the 22d February 1815, the solicitors of major Hart gave notice to the court of directors, that he intended to take the necessary measures for substantiating in a court of law his claims against the company. This measure, however, was never resorted to: but in Easter term last, the court of directors were called upon, by a rule of the court of King's Bench, made on the motion of his Majesty's solicitor-general, to shew cause why a mandamus should not issue, commanding them to dispatch and send out the orders and instructions in question. The rule for a mandamus was opposed by counsel on behalf of the court of directors, first on the ground that the subject matter of the dispatch did not relate to points connected with the civil or military government or revenues of India, and consequently was not subject to the alteration of the board of commissioners, and secondly, on the ground that the alteration amounted to an order for the payment of an extraordinary allowance to major Hart, within the words of the eighteenth section of the 33d George III, c. 52. The court of King's Bench determined that they had no jurisdiction to inquire into the first question, the determination of which was exclusively given to the King in council by section 16 of the above-mentioned act; and, secondly, they determined, that the order contained in the substituted paragraph did not amount to an extraordinary allowance, within the meaning of the act. But they enlarged the rule for a mandamus, in order to give the court of directors an opportunity of bringing the former question before the privy council by petition. A petition to his Majesty in council was accordingly presented by the court of directors, praying his Majesty to decide how far the dispatch in question was connected with the military and civil government and revenues of the British territories and possessions in India.

"This petition was argued by counsel on both sides, on the 28th of July and the 2d and 5th of August last, before a committee of the privy council, which was attended by the Lord Chancellor, the Lord President of the Council, the Lord Privy Seal, the first Lord Commissioner of his Majesty's Treasury, two of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, the Master General of the Ordnance, the first Lord of the Admiralty, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Master of the Mint, one of the Joint Pay-masters of the Forces, the President of the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India, another Commissioner for the Affairs of India, and also, the Master of the Rolls, and Sir William Scott.

"On the 27th of November last, his royal highness the Prince Regent, acting in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, was pleased, upon the report of the committee, to decide, that the dispatch in question, and the subject matter thereof, did relate to points concerning which the commissioners for the affairs of India had authority to send orders or directions to the court of directors, to be by them transmitted to the proper governments or officers in India.

"The rule of the court of King's Bench for a mandamus has since been made absolute, and the writ has issued accordingly, commanding the court of directors to dispatch and send out the orders communicated to them by the board of commissioners on the 30th day of May 1808. In the proceedings, as well in the court of King's Bench as before the privy council, an affidavit by colonel Macleod, who acted in the expedition against Seringapatam as superintendant of bazars and supplies to the army, was produced. By this affidavit it was shewn to demonstration, that it was utterly impossible that the rice, for which the board of commissioners authorize a reimbursement to major Hart at the rate of one rupee per

seer, with interest, could have cost him half that price, and it is very improbable that it should have cost him nearly as much as half a rupee per seer. Under these circumstances, the court of directors cannot but record their most solemn protest against the propriety of the orders which they are required to dispatch :—

"Because it is admitted, that major Hart is entitled only to a reimbursement of the actual cost of the rice in question to him, and it is quite clear, for several reasons, that it could not have cost him at the rate of one rupee per seer, which is equal to something more than one shilling and three pence sterling for one pound avoirdupois ; for the common price of rice in the Carnatic, when there is no scarcity or extraordinary demand, is at the rate of twenty seers for a rupee, which is equal to about three farthings per pound. It is in proof, that the rice supplied by the company to major Hart, for his followers on the expedition, together with boat-hire, cooly-hire, and all charges, actually cost less than at the rate of fifteen seers for a rupee, which is about one penny per pound. There is no ground for assuming the price of one rupee per seer, more than any other price, as the cost of the rice to major Hart ; except that during the famine, rice appears to have been paid for in the camp at that rate, and as high as five rupees per seer : it is therefore clear, that one rupee per seer must have included a considerable profit, since no vender would sell rice during a famine but at a profit. And if credit is to be given to major Hart and his witnesses, he had procured the rice before the army had arrived at Seringapatam, consequently before the famine, and therefore at a less price than the famine price. It is shewn to demonstration, by the affidavit of colonel Macleod, that even if major Hart had used no bullocks but his own for the carriage of the rice, that it could not, including carriage, and all charges and allowances for loss and wastage, have cost him more than at the rate of two seers and three-fifths of a seer for a rupee, which is not equal to sevenpence per pound; but it is admitted that he did, in some instances, use the company's bullocks, and therefore it could not have cost him so much.

"Because the orders, as required by the board of commissioners to be sent out, invert the universal principle by which truth is sought, by waving the necessity of all affirmative proof, and calling upon the company to prove a negative.

"Because the impossibility of proving what the rice cost is assumed, without any assertion to that effect by or on the part of major Hart, and when, from his own statement before the committee of officers at Seringapatam, and while the transaction was recent, as well as from the affidavits of his native agents (Sadashwah and Mootiah) it appears, that at the time he said that he could produce no vouchers to the committee, he must have been able to procure accounts of his purchases, and to have given regular proof of the cost. If, therefore, such accounts are not now forthcoming, they must have been purposely withheld or destroyed ; and as the condition on which Major Hart held the office of commissary did not admit him to become a dealer in rice for his own profit, he was bound to keep and preserve exact accounts and vouchers ; and if he, acting as an agent, neglected to keep, or has purposely withheld or destroyed them, it is evidence of fraud, which ought to raise a strong presumption against him, instead of relieving him from the burthen of all proof whatever.

"Because the orders required to be sent will have the effect of allowing to an officer, on a transaction in which he attempted to derive an undue emolument, contrary to the duties of his office, interest at the rate of eight per cent. per annum, when the public creditors of the company in India for money lent, are receiving interest only at the rate of six per cent. per annum. The difference which will thus be put into the pocket of Major Hart will be two per cent. per annum, upon a sum of 106,000 rupees, from the 30th June 1811, which calculated to the 23d April 1816, will amount to 10,200 rupees, which is equal to 1,275*l*. sterling.

"Because, as it is proved that the 106,000 seers of rice in question could not, by any possibility, have cost so much as two seers and three-fifths of a seer per rupee, the whole quantity could not have cost so much as 40,757 rupees, therefore to allow major Hart at the rate of one rupee per seer for 106,000 seers, would yield him a profit of 65,243 rupees at the least, and with interest at the rate of eight per cent. per annum, calculated to the 23d April next, would amount to 153,973 rupees, which is equal to 19,246*l*. sterling ; and therefore an allowance of one rupee per seer, with interest at eight per cent. per annum, will operate as a gratuity, to the amount of 19,246*l*. for a transaction which has received the official severe reprobation of the marquis Wellesley, the earl of Powis, and lord Harris, and has been deemed to render the actor unworthy of holding a commission in the service of the company.

"As the court of directors are ignorant of the grounds on which the advice which his royal Highness the Prince Regent has received in regard to their petition is founded, they trust that they shall not be deemed guilty of disrespect, in re-

cording the reasons which, they humbly presumed to hope, would have lead to a different conclusion. They are—

"Because the true spirit, policy, and object of the several acts of parliament by which the board of commissioners was originally established, and has been continued, as they are to be collected from the several provisions which those acts contain, as well as from the parliamentary history of their origin and enactment, appear to have been, to subtract from the company, and to vest in the commissioners, only such powers as were sufficient to give his Majesty's confidential advisers, commonly called the cabinet council, (the leading members of which are required by law, to be members of the board of commissioners) an insight into, and controul over, all affairs of state, arising in, or relating to, the British territories in India, in order to put an end to the inconveniencies which had resulted from the exercise of personal interest and influence upon the members of a body composed as the company is, and to create a unity and harmony of council and action with the political views and interests of the British empire at large, without imposing upon the political servants of the crown the difficult task of repressing the feelings of temptation, which the funds and patronage of the company and Indian governments offered, in a way which it was thought might be highly dangerous to the constitutional interests of this kingdom. It seems to have been with these views that the board are specially restricted, either from appointing the agents for the performance of any of the duties of state, which they most indisputably may direct, or from proposing any rewards to those agents. In cases of doubtful construction, respecting the powers given to the board of commissioners, the argument of manifest necessity is entitled to considerable weight; but it cannot be necessary for the board to interfere in cases, where every exigency may be answered by recurrence to the ordinary courts of justice of the country. The company like all other subjects, are answerable in the courts of this kingdom for all their debts and engagements. Nay, more, there are courts established at every presidency in India, to which they are made specially amenable, though they exercise the government of the place. It is, therefore, impossible to contend, that there could have been any necessity for erecting the board of commissioners into a tribunal, to administer justice between the company and other British subjects. The ordinary courts of justice are open to both parties: both are amenable to them, and they are competent to decide every complaint which the one may have against the other. But, even if such a provision had been necessary, the law has not made it. The board has no one power, attribute, or character of a court of justice. Major Hart is a British subject: he insisted that the company were his debtors for certain rice which he had supplied; his claim is within the reach of the courts of the country. It is difficult to conceive how the decision of, or refusal to answer this claim, can become an affair of state, requiring the exercise of the discretion and wisdom of a statesman. The justice of the country might be offended, if the proper tribunal refused to hear major Hart's complaint. It would be the duty of the statesman to remedy such an evil, and put the court of justice into motion; but it seems impossible to imagine that it is within the province of the statesman to erect himself into a court of justice. No denial of justice, by any court of judicature, to major Hart, has taken place. The court of directors refer to all the provisions of the acts, which have passed from the year 1784 inclusive, relative to the board, but more particularly sections 9, 14, 16, 17, 18, 35, and 36, of the 33d George III, cap. 52, to shew that the authority of the board is confined purely to matters of state.

"Because there has been no instance of the board of commissioners, since their first establishment in 1784, interfering by their authority in any matter of disputed demand, by any person claiming to be a creditor of the company. It is scarcely possible to believe, that if they possessed such authority, there should not have been occasions on which it would have been exercised.

"Because, if the mere circumstance of a debt having been contracted by the company, by the purchase of an article for military consumption or use, converts such debt into an affair of state within the authority of the board, the board must necessarily have authority to audit the accounts, and direct the payment of the sums due to the numerous tradesmen and manufacturers who supply the military stores which the company export from London for use in India: but the total absence of the provision of all means by which the board could compel the court of directors to pass a warrant upon the company's treasury in London, or by which the board could reach the money of the company in London, shews in the apprehension of the court of directors, that such a debt is not within the authority which the act has vested in the board; for it seems difficult to contend that, where their authority rises by reason of the nature of the subject-matter, and not by reason of its locality, they can have no more or other authority over it in India than they have in England.

"Because the dispatch in question, as

altered, amounts to the admission of a debt, which may be given in evidence against the company, in an action in which judgment may be passed and execution issued against the goods and commercial property of the company, over which it is not contended that the board have any right of controul: and it appears as if this absurdity would result from the board having the power to compel such an admission on the part of the company, namely, that they would also have authority to compel the company to confess an action at law, at the suit of any one who should, without any the least shadow of foundation, claim a debt against them.

"Because it is admitted by the board, that any payment, beyond a reimbursement of actual cost and charges to Major Hart, would be gratuitous: and it has been shewn, that the principal and interest, which the altered dispatch in question authorizes to be paid to him, would amount to the sum of 19,246*l.* at least, beyond such costs and charges and the interest thereon; and, therefore the dispatch appears to the court of directors to be beyond the authority of the board, inasmuch as it would operate as a grant of an extraordinary allowance or gratuity from the Indian revenues to Major Hart to a greater amount, by the sum of 19,426*l.* at least, than is specified and contained in any dispatch which has been proposed by the court of directors to be sent to India, in direct violation, as it appears to the court of directors, of the principle and policy of the eighteenth section of the act of the 33d of His present Majesty's reign.

"Because, if the board have the right which they contended for, all the provisions for protection of the funds of the company from the reach of the king's ministers for purposes of corruption, are illusory, inasmuch as the pretence of a sale of a few military stores to the company would completely lay open their treasury to any minister who might choose to resort to it, in defiance of the guard which the legislature has set up against such a design.

"Because, as this is the first case in which an appeal has been made by the court of directors from the decision of the board of commissioners to the king in council, it is impossible for the court to pass over in silence the proceeding which took place on this occasion, namely, that out of fifteen members of the privy council, who sat as judges on the appeal, and of whom thirteen were of his Majesty's administration, six were members of that very board against which the appeal was made: and, with every possible respect for that tribunal, the court must be permitted to express an opinion, resulting from the first principles of justice, and familiar to every mind in this country, that it was incongruous for those who were parties in the cause to sit as judges on it.

"(Signed).—Charles Grant, P. Reid, Jacob Bosanquet, Joseph Cotton, Edward Parry, William Astell, S. Toone, R. C. Plowden, J. Hudleston, C. Marjoribanks, J. Bannerman, William Wigram, H. Lindsay, A. Allan, D. Scott, R. Parry, John Morris, W. Stanley Clarke, George Smith, J. Thornhill, S. Davis, John Jackson, G. A. Robinson, Richard Twining."

Mr. *D. Kinnaird* said that the resolution of the court of directors, being now read, the case, in point of form, was regularly before the court of proprietors; but preparatory to the general discussion of the subject, it was fit that such resolution should be printed for the use of the proprietors; and therefore he would take the liberty of moving:—

"That the resolution of protest, this day submitted by the court of directors to the court of proprietors, be printed.

"That copies of all correspondence, which have passed between the court of directors and the board of controul, together with all official documents of the proceedings which have terminated in the mandamus issued by the court of King's Bench, be printed for the use of the proprietors."

He apprehended there would be no objection to the adoption of this resolution. He (Mr. K.) standing on this side of the bar, approved highly of this declaration. He considered the paper which had been just read, to be very well conceived in that part which related to the power of controul assumed by the commissioners. But there were many parts of it, from which he entirely dissented; and he begged to protest against that unqualified approbation, which had fallen from an honourable member (Mr. Moore). In this case certainly, which might have been an abstract question, submitted to the consideration of the court, the directors were obliged to mix up the whole case of Major Hart for their decision. This was to be lamented, but he feared it was unavoidable. As to the mere abstract question respecting the right of the board of controul to interfere in the company's pecuniary concerns, it was quite clear that the court must protest against it; yet that protest would be guided entirely by the legal opinion upon the subject; and if the proprietors did not find an insuperable barrier in the law against the exclusive exercise of this privilege on the part of the company, it would be for the proprietors to propose that a bill be brought into parliament to regulate the future exercise of the authority assumed by the board of controul. With regard to the exercise of it on the present occasion, he was less jealous of that manly

and direct interference which was openly proclaimed to be the law, and which therefore would be speedily before parliament to be redressed or confirmed. He was far less jealous of the power assumed by the board, than he was, on a recent occasion, where he had seen, in this court, none of that constitutional jealousy upon which the dignity and independence of the court depended, and when the directors could not themselves muster up courage to protest against that proceeding, which, not only as proprietors, but as Englishmen, they ought to have resisted. He meant the occasion when the head of the board of controul made a direct representation to the court of directors to grant 20,000*l.* gratuitously to lord Melville. There it was, that he should have felt ten times the jealousy that he felt on the present occasion, because that recommendation came with all the force and influence of a *command* without the odium of *form.* (*Hear! hear!*) Here, however, was an abstract case; and, if it had been competent for the court of directors to have submitted this case to the court of proprietors in the abstract, there would have been no difficulty in that mode of proceeding. But, however, the directors had taken a very manly and fair course, for which he applauded them. The directors had now admitted, and had felt that to be the ground on which they had mixed up the proceedings relative to Major Hart with the protest which had been read—they felt it necessary so to do, in order to shew the whole of their proceedings in the transaction. He (Mr. K.) most solemnly entreated the proprietors to give this case a fair and attentive consideration,—that they would not let themselves be biassed one way or other; for he was sure if they only recollected, they were to try this as a direct, open, and manly proceeding, at least on the part of the board of controul;—that the conduct of the board was open as day, and likely to be judged by the public, and that consequently, there was at least some presumption that they might have proceeded upon grounds that would admit of some support; if these things were recollected by the proprietors, he had no doubt of an impartial decision. There was one statement in the paper that had been read, which he must take leave to allude to; it was that which referred to the proceedings in the privy council; for he thought that matter should be explained at once, by informing the court, that although in the privy council, six members of the board of controul out of the thirteen of which it was composed, sat in the privy council, yet that he (Mr. K.) had good reason for knowing that there were not two of them voted upon the subject—he believed not two—he did not, in fact, know that any one of them voted, and it was observable that this was not stated in the resolution. There was another question likely to arise, namely—whether the proprietors might not come to another decision which he would now mention at once, because he thought it was possible—he would not say it was probable—they might ultimately feel themselves bound to come to this conclusion—namely—that the directors had by their injudicious conduct (he would not use stronger language, till a more deliberate opinion was formed) brought the company into that degrading situation of which they complained, and whether if the power of the court of directors and board of controul were to be brought under the consideration of the proprietors without moral considerations, and without many other considerations, entirely disconnected with *law* questions, the whole might not tend to make the proprietors regret that they could not support the board of controul in this exercise of power which they had claimed, and which though *legally* wrong might be *morally* right.

Mr. *Hume* rose to second the motion, but yielded precedence to

Mr. *Stewart Hall*, who had risen once or twice before to speak. Mr. Hall highly applauded the conduct of the court of directors; and he could not resist the impulse of his feelings to acknowledge individually how grateful he felt to them for the manly conduct they had pursued in resisting an unwarrantable stretch of power. Allusions had been made to the case of Lord Melville, and to other things that had been brought before the court at a remote period; but he did think that these matters never should have been introduced into the present question. It had been said that this was an abstract question, and that the court could not consider it in any other point of view; but, he thought that this matter should be fully discussed when both the parties in the case could come before the court.

Mr. *Hume* now rose to second the resolution which had been just handed to the chair; and he did so with the greatest pleasure, because it was similar to one which on the 9th of January 1814, he was extremely anxious should have been received, because it recognized the principle, which on that day ought to have been recognized with equal warmth. He would not detain the court with any arguments in support of it; he would only read three or four lines which would clearly convey to the court as much as was possible the reason why he made the strong appeal he did in January 1814 to the good sense of the court; it was because Mr. Pitt on the formation of the board of

controul declared with the House of Commons, that the board of controul was established "to prevent irregular grants of money, and to enforce the most rigid and inflexible economy, even to parsimony, in all the company's disbursements," and for seeing after a little experience, that the board, if they had the power, might be disposed to encourage instead of checking expense, in order to extend their influence and increase their sway; Mr. Pitt recommended in the 53d Geo. III. c. 52. s. 17 an enactment "that it shall not be lawful for the board of controul, to give or cause to be given, any directions, ordering or authorizing by any dispatches any increase of salaries, &c. unless such increase shall be *first proposed* by the court of directors to the board." And in the 18th section of the same act it is further enacted "that it shall not be lawful for the said board *to give*, or *cause to be given any direction* for the payment of any extraordinary allowance, or gratuity, from the revenues of India to any person, on account of services performed in India *on any account whatever*, to any greater amount, or *to any other person than* shall be specified and contained in some dispatch *proposed by* the said court of directors." He conceived therefore, that the paragraph which the board of controul had altered in the present case was in direct contravention of this express statute. If this proceeding were tolerated in ordering the company to pay this demand made upon them, the board of controul might order them to pay any individual who furnished them with a hundred pounds of rice, at the rate of a pound of gold for every pound of rice. If the individual says it is worth a hundred pounds weight of gold, all he would have to do, would be to make his complaint to the commissioners. and they would immediately order the company to pay the demand. He, therefore, hoped that these papers would be printed; and he trusted that the court would not hesitate one moment in adopting such measures, as should tend to trace out the line, and mark the limits of the power of the board of controul. However unpleasant it might be to express displeasure against His Majesty's ministers, yet the company had a sacred duty to perform towards themselves. The hon. gent. concluded by seconding the resolution.

Mr. *Moore* begged to make one or two observations, in consequence of a remark made by the hon. mover. He understood the hon. mover meant to say, that the case of Major Hart was improperly mixed up with that which was merely an abstract question.

Mr. *D. Kinnaird*. "On the contrary, I was very much pleased. It could not be avoided."

Mr. *Moore* said, then he had mistaken the hon. gentleman most certainly, it was impossible to avoid mixing Major Hart's case up with the present question. With respect to the allusion of the hon. seconder of the motion,—this hon. friend would recollect, that he (Mr. M.) reprobated the doctrine contended for by the board, as much as he did.

Mr. *Lowndes* said, that after the reading of the act of parliament by Mr. Hume, the case was as clear as any self-evident axiom in Euclid, nothing could be clearer than that the board had exceeded their powers; and he hoped and trusted that in considering the matter, the court would also consider, that the board of control, like the Pope, were not infallible.—*(A laugh.)*

Mr. *Jackson* said, that as the information which was now moved for, was of the highest importance, he entertained no doubt, that the motion for printing the papers would be carried without any opposition. He was sure, that the court would decide firmly, justly, liberally, and as became them—between their own valuable functionaries, and that board, to which they were bound to pay, and in fact owed great respect. There were, however, one or two points, which had occurred in the course of the present discussion, with respect to which he was desirous of removing what appeared to be something like an unfair impression. An hon. friend behind him (Mr. Moore) had alluded to green coats and black coats, in speaking of the part which some of the members of the board of controul were supposed to have taken, on the one hand as commissioners, and on the other as members of the privy council. Now he believed there was some little mistake upon this subject; and if it should turn out, that in the nature of things, the part which the commissioners took in the council, was merely matter of form, and not of substance, he was sure the court would not allow them to suffer under any unfair prejudice. For his own part he would venture to express a belief, that the circumstance of their being present on that occasion, was merely a matter of form, and that they took no active part which could give the slightest ground of suspicion. The directors had most improperly treated the discussion of this part of the question; for in one part of their protest they broadly asserted that certain commissioners of the board of controul, had improperly attended the discussion before the privy council, they being the other party in the dispute. Now, it was a notorious fact, that out of six members of the board of control, the number of which that board was composed, only three were active members, the rest being merely honorary members. Assuming however, they did attend to hear the discussion—was it not the fact, that the di-

rectors, themselves, attended also, for the same purpose?

The *Chairman.* "But we did not sit at the council-table."

Mr. *Jackson.* It was a point, he believed settled, in all well regulated bodies, that persons of their high dignity, had a right to sit in the place, lawfully assigned to them—namely, at the council-table. They could not sit amongst the directors and the rest of the auditory. Supposing it should turn out that they were mere auditors, there was no other place in that room they could sit consistently with etiquette even though they were there as auditors. He remembered, that he himself had once to argue before that august tribunal in a case in which one of the parties was a privy consellor. He very delicately kept aloof from the table amongst the auditory, when he was recognized by the president, was called from amongst the auditory, and placed at the council table, the president telling him, "this alone is your place." From the table he spoke, and sat down there; and there was good reason for thinking that he joined in the adjudication. Of this however, he (Mr. J.) was not certain, but most certainly he sat down and he (Mr. J.) had good reason to believe, he was present at the adjudication. Such was the etiquette of the council; and in private causes, he believed, the king's advocate sat at the council table in like manner. He apprehended that the circumstance of a member of the board of controul hearing the lords of the council consider his own case, and hearing them decide on the case previously considered, he conceived was not very objectionable. He was anxious therefore, that the court should not assume any want of liberality or indelicacy in the parties in the manner of considering the subject; when it might turn out that they only sat as auditors, and took no part in the adjudication. It might be true that they sat in a different part of the court from the directors,—the place where alone they could sit—namely the place where the lords of the council could meet. The other point to which he wished to allude was this. He perceived from reading the protest that it turned upon this assumed fact, namely—that the board of control, had ordered the government of Madras peremptorily to pay Major Hart one rupee per seer for his rice—as if it were a positive injunction to pay the sum demanded, whether it was legal or not—namely: "That you the government of Madras shall pay to A. B. a given sum positively and specifically stated, contrary to the opinion of the court of directors." Now the resolution, as altered by the board, did not direct the payment of any specific sum—quite the contrary;—and there would be found to hinge much of the law—much of the whole merits of the case upon the specific proposition contained in that resolution. So far from their words amounting to an order for the payment of a specific sum, that they went to add—but if it "shall appear upon *proper enquiry* that the rice cost less than one rupee per seer, you are then authorized to deduct from the payment, as much as it cost less, and give him the difference." How was it possible to construe this into a positive direction to pay a specific sum? It was no more than this:—"The party has reckoned that the prime cost is so and so,—you are to inquire well that matter, and form your judgment upon that inquiry—and having done so, pay him what appears to be due.

The *Chairman* begged to state what the opinion of the court of directors was upon his last point. He understood him to consider the order of the board as *conditional.* Upon that question, his majesty's privy council had given this opinion,—"That if the board have not the power of ordering *absolutely*, neither have they of ordering *conditionally.*" Now this was very true, for if they had it *conditionally*, it would be just as operative as if it were absolutely, and nothing could prevent them carrying their authority into the very heart of the company's affairs. With respect to the other point, about the attendance of the members of the board of controul in the privy council; it was not one of very great importance; but it did strike the court of directors as worthy of attention in the report; and it was to be observed that every one of those members were members of the privy council. With respect to another observation, which fell from the hon. mover, who seemed to think, that if there was not any blame, yet there was some degree of indelicacy, in proposing an abstract question, such as this was, mixed up with the case of Major Hart. It had not been the object of the directors to bear hard upon Major Hart, but to leave that question open. But as to bringing an abstract question of this sort, either before their own court or before the court of proprietors, in the form of a substantive and simple proposition, it would amount to nothing useful or tangible. It would be like giving them the skeleton, or dead body of the case, without that life and spirit which alone could give vigour and animation to the subject. As to the court of proprietors, it was absolutely necessary that they should be informed how the question arose,—what were its various bearings,—and how this power, thus assumed by the board, made its appearance. Hence it was indispensable, that the direction should state all the circumstances of the case. He agreed with the hon. gent. in his observations

against a premature adjudication upon this officer's conduct; but if the hon. gent. had extended his consideration a little farther, he would find he had no right to assume that there had been any injustice on the part of the directors, in dismissing that gentleman from the company's service. He (the hon. chairman) was desirous of considering this case, just as if the directors had not adopted that step. For the rest, every part of these proceedings had been considered by the board of control; every order issued by the company was matter of inquiry,—and the whole proceedings were approved, except this last point, relating to the mode of paying for the rice.

Mr. *Kinnaird.* — "They protested against his dismissal."

The *Chairman.*—"They approved of the act of dismissal, if I recollect rightly."

Mr. *Bosanquet.*—"They did not concur in the act of dismission; but, as far as I recollect of that question, they expressed themselves in this way (I do not profess to give the words exactly, but the import of them, from recollection): —'Though the court of directors have deemed it right to dismiss Major Hart from the service of the company, yet we think the case would have admitted of a different conclusion.'"

Mr. *D. Kinnaird.*—They say, "they feel it to be their duty to declare, that it is not within their province to object to the dismission of any of the company's servants, yet in this case, it does not appear to them that the dismission of Major Hart was warranted by the evidence adduced in support of the charge, upon which it is founded."

The *Chairman* said, he merely spoke from recollection of what he had heard. The other orders which had gone out to India, had not been opposed by the commissioners. He might be mistaken as to the subject of dismission. However, he would revert to what had fallen from the hon. member, who said, that the board of control might be found to have acted *legally wrong*, but morally right. Now this was simply a question of power—a distinct question from that of whether the directors had exercised their power right or wrong. If the directors were wrong, still the question on the present occasion was a question of power between the board of controul and the directors. If it was the intention of the board of control, by interfering with the proceedings of the directors, to rescue that officer from the sentence of the court, they might have called upon this court to put themselves morally right, but instead of which, they immediately invaded the legal power of the company. They could not overstep the law, in order to do what they called substantial justice: for that was in the first place immoral. It had been proposed to print the papers. The court must be aware that these papers were very voluminous; and if they were to have the whole of them printed, they would have such a mass that no member would have patience to read them, more especially as those which strictly related to the present question were very few in number. He, however, had no objection to the printing of any papers that might be thought necessary: but it was proper to state, that there were many papers which did not go into the essence of this case. If by any arrangement or selection, the hon. gentleman's object could be served, he should willingly concur in any motion so limited.

Mr. *Kinnaird* said his motion applied solely to those papers relating to what and passed between the court of directors and the board of control; and such official communications as arose upon the subject of payment for the rice. He (Mr. K.) understood that it was the intention of the court of directors that the other papers relating to Major Hart's case should lie open for inspection of the proprietary. His present motion was that the resolution or protest, read this day be printed; and that all correspondence, together with all official documents that had terminated in the *mandamus*, directed to the company, be likewise printed for the use of the proprietors.

The *Chairman* said, he had no difficulty in agreeing to this motion.

Mr. *Bosanquet* did not think that the subject now before the court was one into which it would be proper for the directors, at present, to enter. But there was one point upon which he did apprehend, there could be but one opinion, and that was, that upon so important a subject as this, it was absolutely impossible for the court of directors to have been silent. It was a part of their bounden duty to lay the papers before the proprietors. Presuming to think that the case was not only important to this court, but to the public at large. They had done so: but he apprehended that he was expressing the opinion of the court of directors when he said that having done that, they had nothing further to say on the subject. Being on his legs, he conceived it to be a part of his duty, as a servant of that body to whom he addressed himself to say a few words, in consequence of what had fallen from one or two gentlemen. The hon. gentleman who had moved for the printing of the papers had opened himself a little too much on the present occasion: and it was impossible for the proprietors not to feel what was likely to be the view he meant to take upon this question. He (Mr. B.) did not profess to

quote precisely the words which the hon. gentleman had employed: but the effect of what he said was this—that it was possible from the further consideration of these papers, that the conduct of the court of directors would appear to have been injudicious, and that they had brought the company into an awkward and unpleasant situation. It was impossible for him (Mr. B.) to say what would be the result of this inquiry: but as an individual, all that he had to state upon the subject was, that he hoped the proprietors and the public would take these papers into their consideration; and that if the directors had acted improperly, he hoped, they would tell them so: and he pledged himself that if the hon. gentleman would satisfy him that he had acted improperly, he would be the first to acknowledge it. *(Hear! hear! hear!)*—He begged his hon. friend in the corner (Mr. Jackson) to observe, that in the paper submitted to the proprietors, the directors had not pretended to say that a positive direction had been given by the commissioners in the *mandamus.*—That in all events, a certain sum of money should be paid to Major Hart.—But the hon. chairman had explained all that was necessary to say on this point, in stating, that if the commissioners were restrained from giving a positive order upon that subject, they were equally restrained from giving a conditional one. There was another point upon which the honourable gentleman had touched. He had assumed that this letter alone had been sent to Madras: that was certainly not the case. But there was a circumstance which related to the transmission of the dispatch to which he thought it necessary to advert. If there was any thing which gave pain to the court of directors upon this subject, it was the evidence of Major M'Cleod, which unfortunately was detained by the board of commissioners; and consequently the directors could not send it out. It was upon that evidence, alone, that the government of Madras could give a different determination to this business than otherwise might be expected, on account of the interposition of the board of commissioners. Unfortunately, however, that evidence laid before them, in deliberating upon this question. But he should not say this if that evidence had not been before the court here in their adjudication. It was his clear opinion, that this evidence was most important, and that it ought to go out, with the direction given in the dispatches. He hoped the court of proprietors would not believe that he had any intention on this occasion of arraigning the conduct of the board of commissioners. A variety of circumstances might have prevented the dispatches being sent down. All he complained of was with respect to the evidence of Mr. M'Cleod. The dispatch had been made up some time, but was not yet transmitted.

Mr. *Hume* said he thought it was rather casting an imputation upon the board of controul; for it was no less than a charge of witholding the papers from the directors.—*(No! no!* from several voices.) Had the directors taken the trouble of sending for them? He only asked whether these documents had been demanded? If they were not, there was no blame imputable to the commissioners.

Mr. *Bosanquet* hoped the court would allow him to say a word in explanation upon the subject. Nothing would give him more pain than to be thought guilty of misrepresentation. Perhaps he had been led into a statement of what ought not to be stated: but he hoped he might be allowed to do away any thing like a misrepresentation of the conduct of the commissioners. He meant not to insinuate that the evidence in question, which related to the price of rice, given upon oath by Mr. M'Cleod, had been improperly withheld. All he meant to state, was the simple fact, that that evidence had been sent to the board of controul, but it had not been sent back:—It had not been returned to the directors. He meant not to state that it was *improperly* withheld: but he did think that the dispatch should not go out without that evidence.

Mr. *Hume.* The word *withheld* imports something improper. The honourable gentleman asserts that it was *withheld.*

The *Chairman.* The hon. director did not use the word *withheld.*

Mr. *Bosanquet* said he had risen to explain that he did not mean to state that it was improperly withheld. What he said was that it had not been returned. If he had used the word *withheld,* it was not in the sense or meaning imputed to it, by the honourable gentleman; and he hoped the court would make some allowance for that agitation natural to a man not much in the practice of uttering his sentiments in public. If he had made use of the word *withheld* he hoped the court would allow him to recall it, and understanding that what he intended to state, was that that evidence had not been returned.

Mr. *Kinnaird* explained, and said—in answer to the honourable director's observation respecting the attendance of the commissioners at the council, that he (Mr. K.) had had no communication with any member of the board of controul whatever; and the extent of his observation was, that he believed not more than two had attended, and that he did not know that any one had voted. The import of the passage in the resolution was,

that they had all attended and voted. They might all have attended; and yet not one have voted. He begged to say, that in the remark he made, he meant only to give the court to understand, that out of the six commissioners of the board of controul, there were only three who were active members. The other three were merely honorary members, namely, the secretary of state, and first lord of the treasury, the lord chancellor, and the chancellor of the exchequer, who were merely trustees, nominally. They never interfered with the transactions of the board of control. And therefore, of those six commissioners who sat at the council table, *three only*, in fact, were men who were parties to the business. The others were merely ministers of state, and were honorary members of the board of controul, in virtue of their office.

The *Chairman* wished to say a few words more in addition to what the hon. director had admitted upon the subject of colonel M'Cleod's evidence. The evidence of that gentleman had direct reference to the price of grain at the very time to which major Hart's claim related. That paper directly bore upon the very question at issue. And although the court of directors could not alter the dispatch, yet they were desirous of sending another out to accompany it; for they thought that this most material and important information given by a gentleman who was upon the spot at the time, should go out at the same time with the dispatch altered by the commissioners. In consequence of which a dispatch had been prepared in the usual way, informing the government of Madras, that such paper was inclosed; and as usual that dispatch was sent to the board for their approbation. All that his hon. friend meant was, that "there it remained." He (the hon. *Chairman*) did not mean to insinuate that it was *kept back*:—and though the honourable gentleman was a little *quick* upon the intention of his hon. friend, he was not sorry, the hon. gentleman had put the matter in that way, in order that the real meaning of his hon. friend might be understood. The late president of the board of controul was no more; and there was not a new one yet appointed. This undoubtedly, in the view of the court, appeared an important point: and probably this measure would not be decided upon until there was a new president. There was no intention of insinuating that the paper was kept back, nor did he understand his hon. friend to state that it was withheld; though if it did not come back soon, he, (the hon. Chairman) for one, would be for sending the despatch out, contented to take the consequences arising from the delay.—After this explanation, unless any gentleman was disposed to keep up the discussion longer, he trusted that the question of adjournment would be now put.

Mr. *Jackson* said he had heard his hon. friend with great pain; nor did he experience less pain under what had fallen from the chair; for as he understood the proposition as now suggested, it was this:—That after a conclusion had been come to upon a dispatch proposed by the directors, altered by the board of controul, and confirmed as to their authority, by the king in council; and by the king's ministers sent back to the directors in the shape in which it was now going out to India, it was intended in an *ex parte* and extra judicial manner, to send out, by way of supplement, a paper calculated to destroy its effect. What did this mean? The board of controul had had the whole of this subject submitted to their consideration; and they had agreed to a paragraph ordering that the government in India should pay a rupee per seer, unless, upon inquiry *there*, it appeared that there was sufficient ground for giving Major Hunt a smaller allowance. And yet it was now proposed by way of obviating the effect of that paragraph, to send out an *ex parte* affidavit, offering an opinion that the rice did not cost more than one-third of what was claimed, whether the board of controul consented to it, or not. If they did consent, he (Mr. J.) would be lost in astonishment at the strange contradiction in their conduct. But whether they consented or not, it was such a proposition that, in mere moral justice, ought not to be adopted. It was a proposition the like of which he never heard before. But what was the nature of the evidence proposed to be sent out? It was merely the opinion of Mr. M'Cleod, which was as liable to be erroneous as the opinion of any other man upon the same subject. And if such evidence as this was to be received, it was but fair that the opinions of equally intelligent and honourable men should be sent out on the part of Major Hart. This was a proposition which, for its simplicity, honour, and morality, ought to be acceded to, if the directors wished that this matter should be settled upon the broad principle of justice. But the course proposed was directly opposite: for, the proposition was to supply opinion in the place of evidence, and to influence the judgment of the government of Madras by an *ex parte* and *ex post facto* opinion. Really this was a proceedgin in opposition to every principle of justice: for it was sending out supplementary documents which Major Hart would have no opportunity of answering: and unless the directors gave him the opportunity of meeting this supplementary evidence by supplementary documents, sent

out by equal authority from the court of directors, the grossest injustice would be done to that gentleman. For, what chance would he have as a poor individual unsupported by influence, even supposing he could send out, of his own accord, such documents as he could collect, to repel this affidavit, when he should have to compete with the high authority of the court of directors, and when he should have to oppose the weight of that influence which a letter and which every thing emanating from them must have upon the government abroad!

He hoped he should be forgiven the warmth of his feelings upon this subject. But this seemed to be a proposition so contrary to the first principles of justice, and all moral rule, that he could not bear silently to hear it propounded.

Mr. *Bosanquet* hoped the court would permit him to make a short answer to what had fallen from the hon. and learned gentleman. There was one point on which he (Mr. B.) and the learned gentleman agreed: namely, that supposing this was a supplementary opinion offered by the court of directors, or supplementary matter brought forward, which had never before been heard of in the case, it would have been unjust for them to offer it; but he begged the hon. gent. would be corrected. This was not a supplementary document—it was evidence which had grown out of the case—and had already been under the observation of the court in the consideration of this subject. As far as he could understand what justice was, and what it ought to be, this case came precisely within that notion. This was an evidence completely arising out of this case; and if it had been improperly received no one would be more disposed to get rid of it than himself: but it was not new evidence. It was incidentally arising out of the case itself, and it was so important that it should go out in order that real justice might be done in the case. If the court of directors had done what his hon. and learned friend supposed they had done on the present occasion, namely, introduced *ex parte* matter—not seen—not known—by the party—and which matter would have the effect of counteracting in a clandestine manner the wishes of the board, that certainly would have been very disgraceful to the court of directors. But certainly that was not the line of conduct they had pursued. If there had been any evidence which had come from Major Hart to have authenticated the price that he had actually paid for the rice, that evidence certainly ought to be received, and would, no doubt, have its weight. The imputation here, however, was not only disgraceful to the directors, but, if true, would reflect the highest degree of discredit upon their whole conduct. If the directors had sent their state of the case without suffering counter-observations that might be made upon it, to go out with it, that undoubtedly would have been highly improper; but that was not the fact. He had merely risen for the purpose of impressing the minds of the proprietors with a just conviction that this was not supplementary evidence; but was evidence brought forward long since, and was made use of throughout the agitation of this question: and therefore, whether it was right or wrong, it ought to have its due effect upon the Madras government in the first settlement of this case. It appeared to him to be a matter of fair and substantial justice that this affidavit should accompany the dispatch; and if he was wrong in this opinion he should be very happy to be set right by any one who could do so. Certainly, at present, he had heard nothing like a reason for rejecting this important evidence which had been before given.

Mr. *Trower* conceived that as this document was a part of the original evidence in the case, it could not be considered as a supplementary document; and therefore it ought to go out with the dispatch, and have such weight with it as it appeared to deserve.

Mr. *Hume* reminded the court that the question now was whether the papers should be printed, and therefore there was no necessity for pursuing this collateral discussion further.

The *Chairman* said he did not wish to prolong the discussion, but as the subject had been started by the honourable and learned gentleman, it became necessary that he should say a few words in answer to his observations. He confessed himself perfectly astonished at the doctrine which the honourable and learned gentleman had offered to the court; a doctrine which, he was sure, when the learned gentleman came to reflect, he would acknowledge to be fallacious. Could it be maintained, that if, in this stage of the proceeding against major Hart, the court had discovered important information directly bearing upon the point under consideration, and brought forward in a legal manner, that they were not to bring forward that evidence and take no notice of it, even though the whole case might turn upon its importance? Ought the court to strike out evidence like that, and be precluded from shewing to demonstration what the justice of the case was? What was the occasion which gave rise to the production of colonel M'Cleod's affidavit? It was given in last May, in the court of King's Bench, in order to support the allegation of the petition of the East-India Company. The evidence of colonel

M'Cleod was given on that occasion. Col. M'Cleod had been before examined—long ago, but he had not given any affidavit until then, distinctly referable to the point at issue. Why, when a document of this sort came to the knowledge of the directors, were they not to bring it forward? Were they not to apply that evidence upon which, perhaps, the case would at last be decided? The *mandamus* commanded inquiry into the subject. How then was a fair inquiry to be instituted, if the Company were not allowed to offer such evidence as came to their knowledge? If the court found information directly bearing upon this point, and the gentleman who was to give it, not being in India, but being here, were not at liberty to send out the evidence of that gentleman to the tribunal which was to decide the point? This very gentleman was commissary of supplies at the time of the transaction in question. If colonel M'Cleod came before the court and said, "Gentlemen, you are misinformed: I "was present, and saw certain circum-"stances which spoke strongly in favour "of major Hart"—most undoubtedly the court would have adopted that evidence, and have sent it out for major Hart's benefit. But the course which the business now took seemed to him to accord with the first principles of common justice. He had not a conception how there could be a diversity of opinion upon such a subject. It was undoubtedly a most important document in settling the account between the company and major Hart: but of whatever description it might be, the company had not the power of sending it out without the sanction of the board, and the court might be well persuaded that if the consequences followed which the learned gentleman seemed to apprehend, the commissioners would refuse it. As the matter stood, the first original idea which the directors had was, that this was an important document, and that if it was suppressed here, it should certainly have its due weight abroad. It was in the power of major Hart to meet this by counter affidavits. It was ridiculous to suppose that the company could raise any false impressions by adducing such a document in support of their case; for it was open to him to repel, if he could, any impression which it might make. To omit such an important document in so serious a case would be a dereliction of a duty owing to the company. But then it was said, "What are your motives for sending such "a document out? they are suspicious." It was impossible for the court to adopt any thing without the sanction of the commissioners. The court had only one line of conduct to pursue: namely, to send the document out, and to satisfy the commissioners that that was the course in which the company were, and he hoped that the company were not mistaken in this important point.

After some further conversation, in which Mr. Hume, Mr. Bosanquet, General Browne, Mr. Lowndes, Mr. Jackson, and Mr. Impey took part, the question was put and carried, when the court was adjourned till Wednesday the 27th instant.—[*A full report of which day's debate will be given in our next number.*]

ASIATIC INTELLIGENCE.

BENGAL.

Oct. 3, 1815.—We hear that arrangements have been made for the dispatch of the ships in this port as follows, viz. William Pitt and Lord Melville, to sail for England in December; Metcalf, to Amboyna, to load spices, and proceed to England in November; Marquess Wellington and Princess Charlotte of Wales, to take the 59th regt. to Fort St. George, load there, and proceed to England on the 12th December. The above are expected to form the last fleet.—The Apollo and Sir William Pulteney, to proceed to Bombay; the Northumberland, Lord Eldon, and Huddart, to Fort Marlborough, to load pepper. The last-mentioned ships are to sail in November.—His Majesty's ships Owen Glendower and Thais arrived at Penang the 8th ult.—The brig Juno upset in a squall in the Eastern Seas, crew lost.—The Company's ship Vansittart, arrived safe at Malacca, the 17th ult.—The Company's ships Minerva and Lord Eldon are to go into dock.

The General Harris, from Madras, and the Ernaad, from Calcutta, arrived at Penang, 29th August for Bengal.—The Syren brig, from the Cape of Good Hope, arrived at Calcutta, 27th September.—The Carnatic sailed from Ceylon for Bengal, 15th September.—The Elizabeth Johanna, and the Maas en Rottestroom, from Rotterdam, have arrived at Batavia.—The Aurora, from Holland, put into Anjer Roads, for water, 19th September, and would sail on the 21st for China.—The Canton, from Holland, has arrived at Canton.—The Ceres and General Harris, Company's ships, from London, arrived at Canton, the 7th October.

Our private letters from Calcutta of the 30th June last, mention an unfortunate dispute which then subsisted be-

tween the Government and the Rev. Dr. Bryce, as to the immediate erection of a suitable building for the performance of Divine worship, according to the rites of the Scot's church. It would appear that Government had considered it expedient to defer the erection of a church, and recommended a temporary arrangement for the performance of divine service, pending a reference home. The Doctor, however, considering any delay as an infringement of the rights of the Scots' church, has declined the exercise of his functions, till a church shall be built, according to the directions of the Court of Directors. We understand that the Government had determined to proceed in the adoption of peremptory measures, in regard to the immediate performance of the duties of the Scots' chaplain, but which were suspended, in consequence of the serious indisposition of Dr. Bryce, who had proceeded to Prince of Wales's Island for the benefit of his health.

Marriages.

At Batavia, on the 31st of May last, by the Rev. Professor Ross, James Dupuy, Esq. Deputy Secretary to the Java Government, to Miss Johanna Elizabeth Van Grolls.

By the Rev. Mr. Shepard, at the house of O. L. Bie, Judge and Magistrate of Serampore, Constantine Sherin, Esq. Assistant to the Court, to Miss Charlotte-Frederica, daughter of the late Charles Phillip Wasmics, Esq. Surgeon on the Honourable Company's establishment.

Deaths.

On the evening of the 3d September, on his way to the Presidency, Walter Stewart, Esq. Assistant Surgeon 1st batt. 5th regt. N. I.

At Seharumpoor, on the 30th ultimo, Capt. G. Blacker, of the 1st batt. 17th regt. N. I.

At Sea, on board the ship Partridge, on the 29th of April last, on his passage from England to India, in the 51st year of his age, Wm. Christopher Ord, Esq. many years a resident of Calcutta.

William Robinson, Esq. Sub-Treasurer and Collector of Customs of Batavia.

MADRAS.

Births.

At the Presidency, on Monday the 2d instant, the lady of George Moore, Esq. of the civil service, of a son.

At Trichinopoly, the lady of Captain J. Gibson, of the Madras European regt. of a daughter.

Marriage.

At Bangalore, on Tuesday the 3d instant, by the Rev. Wm. Thomas, Lieutenant W. E. Fitzgerald, 1st batt. 19th regt. to Mrs. Zulima Macdougal.

Deaths.

At the Cape of Good Hope, on the 24th of June, Mr. Pringle, the Hon. Company's Agent at the General Hospital.

Major Gordon, late of His Majesty's 22d regiment of Light Dragoons.

At St. Thomé, the 25th ultimo, after an illness of three days, the infant son of G. E. Askin, Esq. aged 11 months and 3 days.

On the 28th ultimo, Lewis Udolphus Wellington, the infant son of Mr. John Nicholson Heefke.

On Thursday morning, the 19th instant, Daniel Williams, the infant son of Mr. Daniel Perry.

At Port Louis, on the 11th September, of the liver complaint, Capt. P. Grant, of the Hon. Company's ship Streatham.

BOMBAY.

Deaths.

On the 11th instant, with Colonel East's detachment near Dhura', in Kattywar, Geo. Skene Keith, Esq. Assistant Surgeon.

In Kattywar, Capt. Edward Jones, 1st batt. 8th regt.

CHINA.

The subjoined are the names of the Company's ships at Canton, which (in consequence of the intelligence of Buonaparte's return to France having reached China) were to sail for England in a fleet, under the protection of the Owen Glendower, between the 15th of December and the 1st of January, viz.—The Royal George, Cuffnells, Princess Amelia, Warley, Hope, Walmer Castle, Charles Grant, David Scott, Inglis, Essex, Marquess Camden, Vansittart, Warren Hastings, and Alnwick Castle.

MAURITIUS.

Death.

On the 4th September, Mr. Thomas Joseph Ribet.

HOME INTELLIGENCE.

Feb. 22.—This day the sessions ended at the Old Bailey, when Captain Harrower, dressed in deep mourning, appeared at the bar to receive the judgment of the court. The clerk of the arraigns having asked him if he had any thing to say, why judgment should not be passed on him, according to law, he stepped forward, and said,—"My lord, I am not guilty of the offence with which I stand accused." [Here he reflected on the witnesses, and concluded by saying,]—"I have no fault to find with the learned judge nor jury: no doubt, according to the evidence before them, they discharged their respective duties conscientiously. Whatever punishment the laws of my country may doom me to, I shall submit to it with cheerfulness and resignation."—*Mr. Recorder.* "The judgment of the court upon you, George Harrower, is, that you be confined in his Majesty's gaol of Newgate for the period of six calendar months."

—. Admiral Sir C. Tyler's squadron, on its passage from the Cape, touched at St. Helena, and remained two days; during which the admiral and his officers were desirous of seeing Bonaparte, but he declared himself indisposed, and not to be disturbed; although a few hours after it was reported that he was

gone to the plough, which was become his favourite amusement for the afternoon.

—. A letter from an officer on board His Majesty's ship Northumberland, dated 12th January, 1816, and received by His Majesty's ship Medway, just arrived from St. Helena, says—"Napoleon and his suite have taken up their residence at the Lieutenant Governor's, at Longwood, where he appears very comfortable, amusing himself sometimes in riding, and sometimes working in his garden. A few days ago he turned ploughman on some ground within his limits. Whenever he wishes to go beyond this line, he is attended by the officer of the guard, who, from Napoleon's wish, does not wear his uniform. Several who have come here have rode out to Longwood, in the hope of seeing him; but he, having got previous information of their coming, always disappointed them. Admiral Tyler went to Longwood to-day, but Napoleon refused to see him, as he had not been apprized of his intended visit. The officers of the Northumberland he appears glad to see at all times.

—. It is said negociations are now in progress between the court of Rome and the different Protestant courts relative to the Catholics who are in their states. It is resolved, it is said, to establish this subject, and to consecrate the principles of public law which reconcile the interests of princes with that of the Catholic Church. The changes which have happened in Europe, for some time, having aggrandized the states of several houses foreign to this church, require imperiously new arrangements which may meet the difficulties which occur.

Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coberg is about six feet in height, pale, rather pitted with the small pox, but a fair open countenance, and prepossessing manners. He was born the 16th of December 1790, has two brothers and four sisters, one of the latter married to a Prince of Wirtemberg, and another to the Grand Duke Constantine of Russia. Coberg is situated in Upper Saxony, and contains about four thousand inhabitants: both the sovereign and the subjects are of the Lutheran religion.

The Archdukes of Austria (princes John and Lewis) honoured Drury-lane Theatre with their presence. The performances, Macbeth and the pantomine of Harlequin and Fancy. Their Imperial Highnesses were attended by Sir William Congreve and their suites: they sat in the king's box, which was superbly decorated on the occasion. On their entrance they were loudly cheered, and the vocal corps, in full chorus, sung, "God save the King," with an additional verse complimentary to the Emperor of Austria. The German hymn of "God preserve the Emperor" was afterward sung, and received with general and loud applause.

Sir George Cockburn is expected home from St. Helena, and will be succeeded in the command on that station by Sir H. Popham.

—. The dispatches received from the West Indies, announce the arrival of the Dutch Admiral (Kikert) at Saint Eustatius, with establishments for the Dutch settlements, which have remained in the hands of the British government.

It is said that one of the principal objects of the extraordinary embassy of the Duke of Luxembourgh to the Court of the Brazils is relative to the restitution of Cayenne and French Guiana, which the Portuguese took possession of during the late usurpation.

The Laplanders arrived in London with their game, which was sold by different poulterers in the city. These poor fellows expected, when they left Gottenburgh, that the packet would land them in London, and that they would have no duties to pay; whereas they have been obliged to pay upwards of 50l. for duties, besides ten guineas for freight from Harwich to London. The state of preservation in which these birds are is really surprizing, after travelling upward of 1000 miles. They are preserved by being hung up to freeze in cases, lined with skins to keep out the air. This process so effectually preserves them, that when the packages are opened, the birds are found frozen quite hard: and those packages which are not opened, will continue in this state for some weeks. The mode in which the small birds are dressed in Sweden, is by stewing them in cream with a little butter in it, after being larded, which, it is said, gives them a very excellent flavour: the large ones are roasted, and basted with cream, which is afterward served up as sauce. The Laplanders wear a kind of great coat, made of rein-deer skin, with caps and gloves of the same, which gives them a very grotesque appearance: they are shy of appearing in the streets in this attire, on account of their attracting so many people round them.—*See page* 196.

At Drury-Lane Theatre, on the 19th of February, at the opening scene of the farce called *Modern Antiques*, in which Miss Kelly appeared in the character of *Nan*, a country girl; and Mr. Knight, as *Joey*, a country lad; while these two performers were embracing, according to their parts, a pistol was discharged from about the centre of the pit. It was not at first known whether the attack was intended to be against Miss Kelly or Mr. Knight; but a subsequent investigation proved that it was aimed at

Miss Kelly. The constables belonging to the theatre soon had the assassin in custody, and conveyed him to Bow-street, where he underwent a long examination before Mr. Birnie, at which Mr. Rae and Mr. Dibdin, the managers, attended. He appeared to be about 21, decently and plainly dressed, like a tradesman, but with no appearance of gentility. He gave the name of George Barnett, a law-stationer by business. The prisoner said his mother and father-in-law live near Clare-market. He was asked if he had any personal knowledge of Miss Kelly. He at first denied that he had any knowledge of her, but afterward said he had, and that she could explain it. On being questioned as to his motive for the daring outrage, he declined answering, but would say more at a future period. Miss Kelly, on being informed of the young man's name, recollected that it was the same she had received signed to several love-letters, some of which contained threats, if she did not accept of his offer, &c. She had mentioned the circumstance to Mr. Lamb, one of the gentlemen of the committee of the theatre; also to her dresser, &c. Mr. Rauer, of the box-office, stated, that several shot had entered the stage-door, on the side which Miss Kelly stood; several had also been found on the stage, and in the orchestra. The prisoner, in his defence, said, he did not mean any harm, but only to frighten. On being asked by the magistrate if he meant merely to frighten by firing a loaded pistol in a crowded theatre, he made no reply. He was then committed for firing, with intent to kill and murder Frances Maria Kelly. The first letter he wrote to Miss Kelly bore strong marks of lunacy. It was a challenge to fight him. He said, he had seen her fire a musket upon the stage, and, therefore, she could not plead inability to fire a pistol.

Court of Common Pleas. Webster v. Baldwin.—This was an action brought by Mr. Wedderburn Webster and Lady Caroline Frances, his wife, to recover damages for a series of libels, imputing to Lady Webster a criminal intercourse with the Duke of Wellington, which libel appeared in the St. James's Chronicle, a newspaper of which the defendant is proprietor. Mr. Campbell opened the pleadings, and stated, that, the plaintiff, Lady Webster, had always preserved an unsullied reputation, and that the defendant had published in a newspaper called the St. James's Chronicle, several libels upon her, imputing to her that she had been guilty of adultery with the Most Noble Arthur Duke of Wellington. Mr. Serjeant Best stated the case. He described Mr. Wedderburn Webster as a gentleman of large fortune, and allied to some of the first families in the country. His lady was the daughter of the Earl of Mountmorris, about twenty-four years of age, of great personal beauty, but that beauty was lost sight of by those who were acquainted with her virtues. The Duke of Richmond, who was examined from the bench, stated, that he was at Brussels at the same time with Mr. and Lady Webster, and wholly disbelieved the circumstance.—Damages £2,000.

Warsaw, Feb. 19—A few days ago there arrived here an Indian Prince, who has already proceeded on his journey to St. Peterburgh; he is the son and next heir to the Emperor of the Birmans, whose dominion comprehenden the kingdoms of Ava, Aracan, and Pegu. He has been presented to the Grand Duke. It is pretended that he is sent by his father to learn the European art of war. He is 25 years of age, speaks several European languages.—After the retreat of the French from Russia he arrived here, he was arrested by the Russians, but afterwards liberated. He has hitherto lived at Bucharest, and in Austrian Gallicia. He was requested by the Commandant of this city to produce documents respecting his character, and to give an account in writing of his journey and adventures.

The protocol fills several sheets. He was treated with all the respect due to the rank he claimed.—His father's empire, which was first formed in 1754, is considered as the fifth great power in Asia, and contains, it is said 17,000,000 of inhabitants, and borders on the kingdom of Thibet, the Chinese empire, the kingdom of Siam, the Bay of Bengal, the British possession in Bengal, and the kingdom of Assam.

Feb. 27.—Major Stuart, Aid-de-Camp to the Earl of Moira, who brought home the late dispatches from that nobleman, is promoted to the rank of Lieut.-Colonel in the army. This gallant officer is son to the distinguished professor, Dugald Stuart, of Edinburgh.

29.—The following is a list of the passengers by the General Stuart, just arrived from Bombay:—

Capt. Knatchbull, 22d light dragoons; Lieut. Coulthard, 17th ditto; Lieut. Ditmas, 27th foot; Lieut. Blacker, 65th ditto; Lieuts. M'Cullum and Rutherford, native service; the Rev. Mr. Mrs. Miss and Master Nott; Mrs. Major Rudland; Miss Thompson.—Died on the passage, Mrs. Green and Ensign Haynes, Bombay regiment; and the Hon. Lieut. Tournor, of the 65th regiment; drowned last Friday evening in coming from the ship to Portsmouth.

March. 2.—Accounts are brought by the ship's arrived yesterday that some in-

surrectionary movements had taken place among the Dutch colonists in the interior of the Cape settlements. The diturbances where however soon suppressed by the interposition of the civil authorities and military power. Some of the ring-leaders were taken and tried by court martial which has passed sentence of death upon them, and when the ships sailed the execution was expected daily to take place at the Cape Town.

—. The ship Thomas Grenville arrived at the Cape the 23d Dec., and was to sail again on her voyage to China the 28th.

The Minden man of war took a cargo of provisions and live bullocks from the Cape to St. Helena, and left that island the 26th December. Bonaparte continued to reside at the cottage; every thing was perfectly quiet, and provisions of every description were in plentiful supply.

—. The General Stewart, private ship, arrived off the Isle of Wight on the 23d Feb.; she left Bombay on the 8th December, and St. Helena the 4th Jan.—The Sir William Romney and Apollo, extra ships, had arrived at Calcutta, and the Carnatic, regular ship, at Ceylon. The General Stewart had brought dispatches from St. Helena from Sir G. Cockburn. No new occurrence of any interest had taken place in that island.

—. The Claudine private ship arrived in the Downs on Saturday, and the Juliana private ship yesterday. They sailed together from Batavia the 2d November, but parted company off the island of Ascension. The Claudine touched at the Cape the 26th December, and at St. Helena about the 10th January.

On the 26th Feb. the dispatches were finally closed at the East India House, and delivered to the pursers of the following ships, viz.—Lady Castlereagh, Capt. G. Simpson; Cambridge, Capt. I. Freeman; Coldstream, Capt. J. Coxwell, for St. Helena and China.

Passengers per Lady Castlereagh—For St. Helena, Ensign Alex. A. Young.

Letters received from St. Helena, of the 20th December, state, that Buonaparte daily rides out, attended by an officer, Capt. Poppleton, of the 53d regiment; but that he is confined to certain limits. He keeps eight horses, with a corresponding equipage. A camp had been formed at a certain distance round him, so that his escape is more guarded against. Some few days previous to the date of these letters, a misunderstanding had taken place between Buonaparte and Bertrand, in consequence of which Gen. Montholon had been appointed grand-marshal, and General Gorgaud master of the horse.

—. The case of the students of the East-India College, was unexpectedly brought forward on Friday at Hertford, when there was no bill found against them by the grand jury.

The Army Estimates for the present year occupy 67 folio pages. The following is an abstract:—

	£.	s.	d.
Land Forces, including the corps intended to be reduced, for Great Britain and Ireland, 111,756—Expense	4,702,611	10	11
Regiments stationed in France, number 34,031—Expense	1,234,596	13	6
Regiments in the East India Company's Service, number 28 491—Expense........................	905,604	19	2
Embodied Militia	550.000	0	0
Pay of General Officers	182.727	1	2
Staff and Garrisons	318,753	8	6
Full Pay for Supernumerary officers	114,302	6	7
Public Departments	186,631	4	6
Exchequer Fees, Irish Poundages, &c.	127,863	2	0
Half-pay and Military allowances	480,568	2	11
In-Pensioners of Chelsea and Kilmainham hospitals	55,095	11	7
Out-Pensioners of ditto	855,220	15	0
Widows' pensions	93,899	5	8
Volunteer Corps	122,986	18	2
Local Militia	100,000	0	0
Foreign Corps; for various periods in 1816—number 21,401. Expense	370.669	18	5
Royal Military College	33,819	17	2
Royal Military Asylum	39 185	17	2
Retired Chaplains, &c.	17,550	19	11
Medicines and Hospital Expenses	60,266	12	4
Compassionate List and Bounty Warrants	64,424	0	3
Commissariat Department (Ireland) :....................................	219,000	0	0
Barrack Department (Ireland) ...	213,000	0	0
Superannuation Allowances	17,964	0	8
Officers attached to the Portuguese Army	35,000	0	0

Deduct from the above the troops in France and the East Indies, and there remain 133,505 men, of the expense of whom, 6,735,947*l.* 17*s.* is charged to Great Britain, and 2,246,428*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* to Ireland; making a total of 8,982,375*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*

A return of the expense and numerical amount of the military establishment of Great Britain, for the years 1714, 1730, 1749, and 1764:—

Years.	Expense.			Officers and Men.
1714.	£795,182	4	2	22,054
1730.	1,140.432	2	9	35,236
1749.	1,098,357	6	3	33,058
1764.	1,345,541	9	6	31,777

Mem.—The sums above mentioned include, in addition to the regimental charge—1st. The expense of Chelsea hospital, half-pay, and widows' pensions.—2d. A provision for 12,094 Hessians, amounting to 241,259*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.* in 1730.—3d. The sum of 80,000*l.* for the pay and clothing of the militia, in 1764. This return does not include the numbers and charge of the Irish establishment.

An account of stock transferred to the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt, for the purchase of life annuities, pursuant to the 48th George III. c. 142; from the 1st. September

1808, to the 31st January 1816, distinguishing the last half year.

*L*3. per cent. bank annuities transferred; from 1st September 1808 to 28th July 1815—2,949,398*l*. Last half year, from ditto to 31st January 1816—148,153*l*. Total—3,097,551*l*.

Dividends receivable on all bank annuities transferred, from ditto to ditto—88,481*l*. 18*s*. 9*d*. Last half year, from ditto to ditto—4,444*l*. 11*s*. 10*d*. Total—92,926*l*. 10*s*. 7*d*.

Life annuities granted, from ditto to ditto—209,383*l*. 5*s*. 6*d*.—Last half year, from ditto to ditto—10,196*l*. 9*s*. 6*d*. Total—219,579*l*. 15*s*.

Annual sums reverted to the Sinking Fund, by the death of nominees, and by annuities unclaimed for three years and upwards, from ditto to ditto—15,606*l*. 7*s*. Last half year, from ditto to ditto—4,128*l*. 8*s*. Total—19,734*l*. 15*s*.

Life annuities now payable, from ditto to ditto, 193,776*l*. 18*s*. 6*d*. Last half year, from ditto to ditto—6,068*l*. 1*s*. 6*d*.—Total 199,845*l*.

Excess of life annuities granted above dividends, from ditto to ditto—120,201*l*. 6*s*. 9*d*. Last half year, from ditto to ditto—5,751*l*. 17*s*. 8*d*. Total—126,653*l*. 4*s*. 5*d*.

Excess of life annuities now payable above dividends, from ditto to ditto—105,294*l*. 19*s*. 9*d*.—Last half year, from ditto to ditto—1,623*l*, 9*s*. 8*d*. Total—106,918*l*. 9*s*. 5*d*.

Stock redeemed by annual sums reverted to the Sinking Fund by the death of nominees, and by unclaimed annuities, from ditto to ditto—52,487*l*. Last half year, from ditto to ditto—18,084*l*.—Total—70,571*l*.

Stock originally transferred for life annuities which have expired, and for annuities unclaimed for three years, from ditto to ditto—180,719*l*.—Last half year, from ditto to ditto—55,261*l*.—Total—235,980*l*.

Total stock redeemed, column 8 and 9, from ditto to ditto—233,206*l*. Last half year, from ditto to ditto—73,345*l*. Total..306,551*l*.

Total stock which would have been redeemed by the excesses of life annuities from time to time, payable above dividends, if the same had been intermediately applied to the redemption of stock, from ditto to ditto—736,792*l*. Last half, year, from ditto to ditto—108,162*l*. Total—844,954*l*.

Difference between columns 10 and 11, or excess of stock which would have been redeemed from ditto to ditto—503,586*l*. Last half year, from ditto to ditto, 34,817*l*. Total—538,403*l*.

March 5. Advices are said to have been received by the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East-India Company, intimating that the decisive measures adopted by the Earl of Moira, in consequence of suspicious appearances in the conduct of the Nizam and the Peishwa, had been attended with the most satisfactory results; those princes having, immediately on the approach of the British troops to their respective capitals, Hyderabad and Poonah, offered to give the most ample securities for their pacific and friendly conduct. An arrangement was accordingly concluded, by which the Nizam agreed to place his brother, the known instigator of his hostile dispositions, in close confinement in a fortress belonging to a third power: the Peishwa went further, and gave up his minister, the promoter of his military schemes and preparations, who was brought a prisoner to Bombay, there to be kept as the Government of British India may in its discretion think proper. The dispatches containing this information being sent home to the secret department, according to the usual practice of all official advices from the Indian government, are not yet officially notified from the select body of Directors composing the Secret Committee. But it is said, upon some of the very best authorities, that the particulars which we have stated, may be relied on as authentic.

The brig Hope, belonging to Madras, sailed from Trincomalee on the 2d of January in last year, bound to Pegue, having on board near thirty persons. These were the commander, Mr. Modjer, a mate named Anderson, a serang, two tindals, a gunner, four seacunnies, and about twenty lascars, with a servant employed by the commander, named Lorenzo Lustrin, who is a native of India, born at Pondicherry. The brig had originally come from Madras, with a cargo of provisions and stores for the use of the king's navy. After discharging this cargo, they took on board a few bales of cloth and other articles for the Pegue market. In the passage she encountered contrary winds for the space of two months, and the provisions being nearly exhausted, the commander found it necessary to touch at one of the Nicobar islands for supplies of water and food. On the first day, that the brig anchored, about twenty boats came from the island, and supplied them with cocoa nuts and provisions. The next day the boats returned, and brought also some betel. On the third day, the commander was making preparations to depart, when six boats came alongside, and the people as usual boarded the brig. Among these was an European, who spoke the English language, attended by a Caffre and a Malay.

Mr. Modjer inquired of the European from whence he came. The man said, he had belonged to an English ship of war, that he had fallen overboard, and had fortunately gained the island. These men continued for a considerable time on board, importuning the commander to purchase more provisions. At about one o'clock, the commander intending to quit the deck, desired the men to return to their boats, as he required nothing more. The ruffians refused to quit the brig, and made signals to call a great number of boats lying near the shore, threatening and abusing Mr. Modjer, who, much irritated at this conduct, struck the Caffre a blow. This fellow snatched up a wooden bar and knocked Mr. Modjer down. Mr. Anderson, the mate, came from the cabin with a pistol in his hand, and was instantly killed by the thrust of a pike. The seacunnies, and the rest of the crew, with the exception of three men, were then overpowered by the superior numbers of the islanders. Lorenzo Lustrin and two lascars, escaped and concealed themselves in the hold. These men believed that the rest of the crew were murdered,

but they saw nothing of what occurred after the death of the mate.

During this day the people were employed in plundering the vessel, and the three men were not discovered. On the following day, the islanders returned to renew their search for property, dragged them forth and prepared to put them to death, but their entreaties were heard and their lives spared. The plundering was renewed, and after some hours the islanders set the bri g on fire, and took the captives on shore. Lorenzo Lustrin, with the other two men, lived on the island for near fifteen days, when a Burmah vessel touched there. He privately told his story to the persons on board, and was conveyed by them to Martaban, leaving his companions on the island. After a lapse of several months, he procured a passage to Rangoon, where he related his story to Mr. Bruce and Mr. Sarkies, residents at that place. Mr. Bruce sent the man to Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co. at Madras, on the schooner Virginia, in the month of January last, and his deposition to the above facts was made a few days after his arrival. By this statement it appeared, that the brig sailed from Trincomalee on the second of January, arrived at the Nicobars on the 4th, and was captured on the 7th of March.—The policy of insurance had expired on the 19th of February.—*Cal. Mirror, Sept.* 20, 1815.

14. The Ld. Castlereagh, a country ship arrived yesterday in the Downs, from Bombay, whence she sailed on the 7th November; touched at the Cape on the 12th January, and left it the same day. At the departure of the Lord Castlereagh from the Cape, none of the homeward-bound ships, reported to be there on the 18th December, remained, so that the Cornwallis, from Bengal aud Madras, had sailed in the interval for England. The Coromandel, a country ship, which sailed from the Downs, for Madras and Bengal, was the only ship at the Cape on the 12th of January. The arrival of the Cornwallis, so long and anxiously looked for, may be daily expected. The Lord Castlereagh was not allowed to touch at St. Helena.

—. The subjoined is an extract of a letter from an officer in the Company's service, dated camp, Hyderabad, Oct. 11, 1815:—We have just returned to this place from Poona, whither we were marched to demand an explanation and satisfaction if required, for the death, under very suspicious circumstances, of some of our officers.

15. The David Scott and Carmarthen Indiamen, which sailed from the Downs on the 22d of May, arrived at Bombay on the 10th November. The Thomas Grenville, consigned to China, arrived at the Cape on the 1st January.

By accounts recently arrived from Bengal, it appears, that the demand for bills on England had, of late, been very inconsiderable, and there was little prospect of an increase.

Bills on his Majesty's treasury, at thirty days' sight, were obtained at 2*s.* 7*d.* per sicca rupee, and private bills were at 2*s.* 8*d.* to 2*s.* 9*d.*

The Company's six per cent. paper was improving; the discount thereon being about eight per cent.

Silver had fallen in price, the relative value of sicca rupees and dollars being 204 of the former for 100 of the latter.

Madras papers, to the 24th October inclusive, announce the death of Rear-Admiral Burlton, Commander in Chief in the East Indies, on the 22d of September. Capt. O'Brien has, in consequence, hoisted his flag as Commodore of his Majesty's squadron.

East-India Shipping List,—March 1816.

Downs, March 13.—Arrived the Lord Castlereagh, Bruce and Co. country ship, from Bombay, sailed thence 10th Nov. and the Cape, 12th January.

The Coromandel, Cameron, outward bound, was at the Cape.

The David Scott and Carmarthen, arrived at Bombay 10th Nov.

The Thomas Grenville, Co.'s ship, arrived at the Cape 23d Dec., and sailed for China, 1st January.

Cape of Good Hope, Dec. 29, 1815.—Arrived Iphigenia frigate; Resource, Henderson; sailed for India 8th January.

Maister, Wiseman, from Bengal, Jan. 15, 1816; sailed 25th Oct.

London, March 18.—Letters have been recived from China, dated 3d to 5th November. All the ships had arrived at China, excepting the General Kyd and Herefordshire. The first fleet, consisting of the Royal George, Cuffnells, Princess Amelia, Warley, Hope, Walmer Castle, Charles Grant, David Scott, Inglis, Essex, Marquess Camden, Vansittart, and probably Warren Hastings and Alnwick Castle. To sail 15th December to the 1st January, under convoy of H.M.S. Owen Glendower. The second fleet to sail the beginning of February.

Downs, March 19.—Arrived the Cornwallis, (Paxtow's) Charitie, from Madras; sailed from Bengal, 19th August, Madras, 10th October, Cape, 4th January.

Mary, (Porcher's) Howill, from Bengal.

Passengers per Cornwallis.—Mr. Alexander, Mrs. Do.; Miss Do., niece; two Miss do., daughters: Gen Wetherall, Col. Daniell, Capt. Sutherland, of the Royals, Lieut. Palmer, Madras Cavalry, Lieut. Greenhill, Do. Capt. Byns, Royal Artillery.

The Madras Gazette of the 30th September contains an Address from the British residents at Futtyghur to Lord Moira, on the successful termination of the campaign in Nipal, with his Lordship's answer.

Mr. Thomas Teed, son of John Teed, Esq. M.P. for Grampound, in Cornwall, has been permitted to proceed to India, to practice as an attorney in the Supreme Court of Judicature at Madras.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

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The Society for promoting Christian Knowledge Vindicated from the Charge of Inconsistency and Contradiction; in Answer to a recent Publication, intitled, "A Respectful Address to the Most Reverend the Archbishops," &c. &c. By another Member of the Society. In 8vo. Price 1s.

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A Sermon preached in the Parish Church of St. Anne, Kew Green, on Thursday, January 18, 1816, being the day appointed for a general thanksgiving for peace. By the Rev. Thomas Tunstall Haverfield, A. M. Chaplain to his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, and Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford. 1s. 6d.

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LONDON MARKETS.

March 26, 1816.

Sago.—At the India-House to-day, 167 parcels, 51s. *a* 53s.

Rice.—There were 490 bags in the East-India sale to-day, good small white, little broken, the prices 17s. *a* 20s.

Cotton.—The late arrivals of Cotton were taken off immediately on their being brought to market; the supplies continue inadequate to the extensive and general demand. All the East-India were sold subject to the duty of 1d. per lb.: the following are the particulars—250 Surats very ordinary 13d., the remainder 16d. *a* 17d., and 100 at 3d. advance on the last sale price, and 400 Bengals were sold at 14d. *a* 15d.

Sugar.—The demand for Muscovades continued limited during last week.—There is very little business doing in Muscovades this morning, the purchasers being attracted by the large East-India sale this forenoon, which consisted of 9,027 bags—Brown, strong grain, 46s.—Fine yellow and good Java, 49s. 6d. *a* 53s.—Low white, 52s. *a* 56s.; good white, 58s. *a* 62s.

Coffee.—The quantity brought forward by public sale last week was very considerable. The greater proportion was sold, and the late prices fully maintained, clearly shewing that the export demand is getting more extensive.—The sale at the India House this morning, 2,270 bags, consisted chiefly of Mocha Coffee, the price at which the best was put up was 100s.; a considerable proportion sold at 100s. 6d.; the inferior description, mixed with Sugar, first lots, 93s. *a* 95s., afterwards declining 85s. *a* 90s., chiefly at 88s. *a* 89s. 6d.; good pale Cheribon and Bourbon, 63s. *a* 64s.; a few lots Java, dark yellow, 69s. *a* 71s. 6d.

TIMES appointed for the EAST-INDIA COMPANY'S SHIPS of the SEASON 1815-16.

When sailed.	Voy.	Ships.	Tons	Managing Owners.	Commanders.	First Officers.	Second Officers.	Surgeons.	Pursers.	Consignments.	To be afloat.	To sail to Gravesend	To be in Downs.
1815. 15 Nov.	6	Surrey	819	Rich. Borradaile	Samuel Beadle	William Shirley	John Cornish	George Waddell	George Barton	Madras & Batavia	1815. 14 Sept.	1815. 20 Sept.	1815. 16 Oct.
	6	Europe	820	William Mellish	John Mills	Robt. John Barton	Charles Clinch	David Gale Arnot	James H. Gaymer				
1816. 23 Jan.	3	Marquis of Huntly	1200	Tho. G. Murray	Donald Mac Leod	John S. H. Fraser	John Thacker	Alex. McFarlane	Robert Hogg	Bombay & China			
	2	Castle Huntly	1200	Tho. G. Murray	John Paterson	William Reynolds	Thomas Dunkin	David Irving	Thomas Baker				
26 do	2	Lady Melville	1200	Sir Robt. Wigram	John C. Lochner	Thomas Tapley	J. R. F. Doveton	Dav. Cannan, jun.	James Goddard				
26 Feb.	7	Marquis of Ely	1262	Sir Robt. Wigram	James Dalrymple	Charles More	W. H. C. Dalrymple	Wm. Griffiths	John Stewart		1 Nov.	16 Nov.	23 Dec.
23 Jan.	3	Cabalva	1200	John Card	John Hine	David Blair	Wm. Atkins Bower	Wm. Miller	John Hotson				
26 do	7	Cumberland	1260	Wm. Borradaile	T. H. Wilkinson	Joseph B. Anstice	William Kennal	Thomas Godwin	Edward Winslow				
9 Feb.	1	General Hewitt	894	(Company's Ship)	Walter Campbell	John B. Sotheby	Thos. W. Barrow	Duncan McKenzie	John D. Smith	China	3 Dec.	—	1816. 15 Jan.
23 Jan.	1	Cornwall	798	George Palmer	J. R. J. Toussaint	Sam. Remmington	Alexander W. Law	James Johnson	Henry Barber	St. Helena & China	18 Nov.	30 Nov.	6 Jan.
26 Feb.	1	Regent	916	James Haig	Philip Ripley	Wm. Thomson	Charles Sewell	David Davies	George Webb	Madras & China			
	7	Wexford	1271	Sir Robt. Wigram	Charles Barnard	Alex. Ramsay	Richard Clifford	James Lamb	Richard Rawes				
9 Mar.	1	Fort William	1137	William Fairlie	John Innes	George Bunyon	James S. Biles	John Aitkin	Thomas Allardice		16 Dec.	30 Dec.	5 Feb.
26 Feb.	7	Elphinstone	1274	Rich. Borradaile	Thomas Haviside	John Higgins	Wm. Mundy	Wm. McDonald	Fred. Richardson				
8 Mar.	7	Lady Castlereagh	821	William Hamilton	George Simpson	James Barber	F. A. Cunynghame	Thomas Robson	Craswell Jobling	St. Helena & China	30 Do.	1816. 14 Jan.	19 Do.
	2	Cambridge	799	Palmer and Co.	John Freeman	Wm. Morgan	Thomas B. Rust	David Anderson	David H. Renny				
	4	Warren Hastings	1000	John P. Larkins	Thomas Larkins	James P. Hackman	John H. Buttivant	Ebenezer Oliver	James Wm. Pears	Madras & Bengal			
	3	Asia	958	Henry Bonham	H. P. Tremenheere	John T. E. Flint	Thomas Davey	James M. Hodges	Thos. Stephenson		1816. 15 Jan.	28 Do.	4 Mar.
	3	Marchioness of Ely	952	Sir Robt. Wigram	Brook Kay	Alex. Jas. Moore	George Tennent	John M. Bennett	Wm. Millett				
	1	Earl of Balcarras	1417	(Company's Ship)	James Jameson	Peter Cameron	David R. Newall	—	—	China			
	5	Surat Castle	1149	John Innes	William Hope	James Walker	Henry P. Auber	James W. Osborn	Peter Christie				
	5	Scaleby Castle	1242	William Moffatt	William Moffatt	Alexander Morgan	Josiah Thomas	Andrew Paterson	James Nisbet				
	6	Windham	823	Thomas Price	Joseph Andrews	Alexander Lindsay	Wm. Henry Ladd	Wm. Jardine	Harry James				
	7	March. of Exeter	820	Richard Pain	Thomas Gilpin	Wm. Longcroft	John F. Ambrose	Samuel Newson	John W. Graham				
	7	Hugh Inglis	821	Henry Bonham	J. Fairfax	Theophilus Lutey	Wm. Eastgate	J. W. Lyon	David Leighton		13 Feb.	27 Feb.	4 April
	5	Phœnix	818	Robert Williams	John Pyke	Thomas White	Telemac. Musson	Thomas Rauken	John Cumming	Madras & Bengal			
	3	Prince Regent	953	Henry Bonham	T. H. Harris	James Mahon	T. F. Balderston	George Lambe	John Reid				
	4	Astell	820	George Gooch	Francis Cresswell	Wm. Evans	George Waugh	W. L. Cummings	W. L. Grave	Ceylon & Bengal	13 Mar.	28 Mar.	3 May
					Masters.								
23 Jan.	1	Lord Lyndoch	589	James Goldie	James Crichton	John Templeton	Fred. Geo Moore	Stephen Anderson	Alexander Sim	St. Helena & China	1815. 26 Nov.	1815. 5 Dec.	1816. 6 Jan.
8 Mar.	3	Coldstream	695	John Dawson	James Coxwell	Wm. Shepheard	Jos. A. Senhouse	Thos. Clemishaw	John L. Wardell	St. Helena & China	30 Dec.	1816. 14 Jan.	19 Feb.
	1	Providence	631	Almon Hill	Andrew T. Mason	George Stephens	Wm. W. Haynes	Samuel Garth	Robert Miles	St. Helena & China			
	7	Sovereign	617	John Locke	John Alex. Telfer	Wm. H. Biden	Robert Foulerton	Alexander Condy	James Gardner		1816. 15 Jan.	28 Do.	4 Mar.
	1	Barkworth	505	John Barkworth	Thomas Lynn	George Noton	Wm. R. Parkers	John Wilkinson	John Moor				
	3	Larkins	637	John P. Larkins	Thos. Dumbleton	Henry Wilkinson	George H. Trill	Richard A. Taylor	John Greaves	Madras & Bengal	29 Do.	7 Feb.	13 Do.
	7	Lord Keith	599	Robert Morris	Peter Campbell	Joseph L. Cope	Walter Young	Archibald Ewart	Edward Crowfoot				
	1	Lady Campbell	681	John Innes	Thomas Marquis	—	William Reid	— Scott	Eustace Wigzell	Bengal			
	1	Mangles	560	John Wm. Buckle	Benjamin Bunn	James Graham	—	—	—				
	3	Batavia	555	John Wm. Buckle	John Mayne	—	—	Samuel Plumbe	Henry Heynes				
	7	Ann	508	Shakspear Reed	James Masson	—	George Lloyd	John Sparks	—	Madei & Bombay	13 Mar.	23 Mar.	28 April
	7	Alexander	600	James Mangles	Henry Cobb	—	—	—	—				
	2	Lady Carrington	564	John Campbell	—	—	—	—	—	Madeira & Bengal			

	L.	s.	d.		L.	s.	d.
Cochineal ....lb.	0	5	0	to	0	5	6
Coffee, Java ....cwt.	3	9	0	—	3	11	6
—— Cheribon	3	3	0	—	3	4	0
—— Bourbon	3	3	0	—	3	4	0
—— Mocha	4	5	0	—	5	0	6
Cotton, Surat.............lb.	0	1	0	—	0	1	3
—— Extra fine..................	0	1	3	—	0	1	5
—— Bengal	0	1	1	—	0	1	4
—— Bourbon	0	2	6	—	0	3	0
Drugs, &c. for Dyeing.							
Aloes, Epatica.......cwt.	9	0	0	—	12	0	0
Anniseeds, Star...........	6	0	0				
Borax, Refined....	6	0	0	—	6	15	0
—— Unrefined, or Tincal	5	10	0	—	6	0	0
Camphire unrefined.....	12	10	0	—	16	0	0
Cardemoms, Malabar..lb	0	4	0	—	0	6	6
—— Ceylon..............							
Cassia Buds..........cwt.	24	0	0	—	25	0	0
—— Lignea..............	16	0	0	—	20	0	0
Castor Oil...............lb.	0	1	3	—	0	4	0
China Root..........cwt.	2	0	0	—	2	5	0
Coculus Indicus..........	3	1	0	—	3	10	0
Columbo Root............	2	15	0	—	3	0	0
Dragon's Blood..........							
Gum Ammoniac, lump..							
—— Arabic.......	3	10	0	—	5	0	0
—— Assafœtida..........	7	0	0	—	15	0	0
—— Benjamin	7	0	0	—	50	0	0
—— Animi..........cwt.	5	10	0	—	10	0	0
—— Galbanum...							
—— Gambogium	22	0	0	—	24	0	0
—— Myrrh..................	9	0	0	—	11	0	0
—— Olibanum.............	6	0	0	—	6	10	0
Lac Lake....................	0	1	3	—	0	1	9
—— Dye....................	0	3	6	—	0	5	6
—— Shell, Block.........	3	0	0	—	3	10	0
—— Shivered..............							
—— Stick...................	3	10	0	—	8	0	0
Musk, China..........oz.	0	14	0	—	1	1	0
Nux Vomica.........cwt.	3	0	0				
Oil Cassia...............oz.	0	2	6	—	0	3	0
—— Cinnamon	1	0	0	—	1	1	0
—— Cloves.......	0	3	6				
—— Mace..................	0	3	6				
—— Nutmegs	0	3	6				
Opium................ ...lb.							
Rhubarb	0	6	6	—	0	12	0
Sal Ammoniac ....cwt.	6	0	0				
Senna.....................lb.	0	1	6	to	0	2	6
Turmerick, Bengal..cwt.	1	15	0	—	1	18	0
—— China	2	10	0	—	2	15	0
Zedoary							
Galls, in Sorts..............	10	0	0	—	11	0	0
—— Blue.....................	12	0	0	—	13	0	0
Indigo, Blue ....lb.	0	10	3	—	0	10	8
—— Blue and Violet.......	0	9	0	—	0	10	0
—— Purple and Violet....	0	8	0	—	0	8	9
—— Fine Violet............	0	8	0	—	0	8	6
—— Good Ditto......... ...	0	7	3	—	0	7	9
—— Fine Violet & Copper	0	6	9	—	0	7	3
—— Good Ditto.............	0	6	0	—	0	6	6
—— Fine Copper............	0	6	9	—	0	7	0
—— Good Ditto..	0	6	0	—	0	6	6
—— Ordinary Ditto	0	4	3	—	0	5	0
Rice, Like Carolina...cwt.	0	17	0	—	1	0	0
Safflower..................cwt.	5	0	0	—	9	0	0
Sago ....cwt.	1	11	0	—	1	13	0
Saltpetre, Refined.....cwt.	3	8	0				
Silk, Bengal Skein ....lb.	0	15	1	—	0	18	10
—— Novi	1	0	1	—	1	9	0
—— Ditto White...........							
—— China	1	3	1	—	1	5	9
—— Organzine.............	1	15	0	—	1	19	1
Spices, Cinnamon.......lb.	0	9	6	—	0	10	6
—— Cloves	0	3	4	—	0	4	0
—— Mace....................	0	7	9	—	0	10	0
—— Nutmegs..............	0	6	0	—	0	6	2
—— Ginger ....cwt.	7	0	0	—	7	10	0
—— Pepper, Black .... lb.	0	0	9				
—— — White...............	0	1	3				
Sugar, Yellow .... cwt.	2	9	6	—	2	13	0
—— White	2	12	0	—	3	2	0
—— Brown	2	6	0				
Tea, Bohea................lb.	0	1	11				
—— Congou.................	0	2	3	—	0	3	5
—— Souchong..............	0	4	0	—	0	4	6
—— Campoi..................	0	2	9	—	0	3	10
—— Twankay	0	2	8	—	0	3	0
—— Pekoe..................	0	4	10	—	0	5	4
—— Hyson Skin	0	3	0	—	0	5	4
—— Hyson	0	4	9	—	0	5	5
—— Gunpowder	0	5	6	—	0	5	10
Tortoiseshell................	1	2	0	—	1	5	0
Woods, Saunders Red..ton	10	0	0	—	11	0	0

Goods declared for Sale at the East-India House.

On Tuesday, 2 *April* 1816.—*Prompt* 12 *July following.*

Company's.—Cinnamon, 160,000 lbs.

On Tuesday, 16 *April* 1816.—*Prompt* 19 *July following.*

Company's.—China Raw Silk, 600 Bales—Bengal Raw Silk, 1,000 Bales.

Privilege.—Raw Silk, 360 Bales—China Raw Silk, 65 Bales—Bengal Raw Silk, 673 Bales and 3 Parcels—Wound Silk, 5 Bales.

On Tuesday, 23 *April* 1816.—*Prompt* 9 *August following.*

Privilege.—Indigo, 12,891 Chests, and 1 Hogshead.

Private-Trade.—Indigo, 3,707 Chests, and 1 Box.

Licensed.—Indigo, 31 Chests.

On Wednesday, 1 *May* 1816.—*Prompt* 2 *August following.*

Privilege.—Choppahs, 43 Chests—Sannoes, 25 Bales—Callicoes, 25 Bales—Baftaes, 30 Bales—Nankeens, 600 Pieces and 170 Chests—Madras Handkerchiefs, 3 Trunks—Shawls, 2 Boxes.

Private-Trade.—Nankeens, 2,660 Pieces—Black Sarsenets, 100 Pieces—Nankeen Cloth, 50 Pieces.

Prohibited Goods.—Gurrahs, 35 Bales—Callicoes, 322 Bales—Choppahs, 1 Chest—Sannoes, 66 Bales—Crapes, 48 Pieces—Silk Handkerchiefs, 100 Pieces—Sundries, 45 Bales.

On Friday, 10 *May* 1816.—*Prompt* 16 *August following.*

Privilege.—White Pepper, 16 Small Bags and 92 Bags of 224 lb. each—Black Pepper, 5,410 Bags of 316 lb. each—Camphire, 220 Chests—Nux Vomica, 212 Bags—Rattans, 6,475 Bundles—Red Wood, 360 Cwt.—Black Wood, 50 Pieces—Red Saunders Wood, 332 Cwt. and 2,812 Pieces—Ebony, 313 Pieces.

Private-Trade.—Ground Rattans, 4,255.

On Wednesday, 15 *May* 1816.—*Prompt* 23 *August following.*

Company's.—Brown Nankeens, 193,622 Pieces.

Daily Prices of Stocks from the 26th of February to the 25th of March 1816.

1816.	Bank Stock.	3 p. Cent. Reduced.	3 p. Cent. Consols.	4 p. Cent. Cons. 1780.	Navy 5 p. Cent.	Long Annuities.	Irish 5 p. Cent.	Imperial 3 p. Cent.	Ditto Annuities.	Omnium.	India Stock.	South Sea Stock.	Old So. Sea Annuities.	New Ditto.	5 per Cent India Bonds.	3½ per Dy. Exchequer Bills.	Consols for Account.	Lottery Tickets. £	s.	d.	1816.
Feb. 26	—	61⅞ 62	61⅞ 62	77⅜ 77[illegible]	90⅝ 90¾	15⅞ 15 15/16	—	—	—	18⅛	—	—	—	—	4.5p	4p.1d	62 61⅞	6	7	0	Feb. 26
27	251 252	62 61¾	62 61¾	77⅝ 77⅛	90¼ 90⅜	15⅞ 15 15/16	—	—	—	18⅛	—	66½	—	—	3.4p	2d.5p	62 61⅞	26	7	0	27
29	—	61⅝ 61¾	61½ 61¾	77⅜ 77	90½ 90¼	15 15/16	—	—	—	17¾ 18	—	—	—	—	par 1p	4d.1p	62⅜ 62⅝		—		29
Mar. 1	251½	61⅝ 61⅜	61½ 61¼	77⅛ 76¾	90¼ 89⅞	15 13/16 15⅞	—	60½	—	17⅝ 17⅛	182 181	—	—	—	2.3p	2d.3p	62⅛ 62¼		—		Mar. 1
2	—	61⅜ 61⅝	61⅜ 61½	77⅛ 77	90⅛	15 13/16 15⅞	—	—	—	17¼ 17⅜	—	—	—	—	4p	2d.2p	62⅛ 62¼	26	7	0	2
4	—	61½ 61¾	61½ 61⅝	77⅛ 77¼	90⅜ 90⅛	15 13/16 15⅞	—	—	—	17½	—	—	—	—	4.5p	2d.3p	62¼ 62⅜		—		4
5	250¼ 251	61⅝ 61[illegible]	61⅝ 61¾	77⅜ 77	90⅜ 90½	—	—	—	—	17¾ 17⅝	180½ 181	—	—	—	3.4p	2d.1p	62½ 62⅜		—		5
6	—	—	61⅝ 61¾	—	90½ 90⅝	—	—	—	—	17½ 17⅝	—	—	—	—	4p	3d.1p	62¼ 62½		—		6
7	—	—	61⅝ 61½	—	90½ 90⅝	—	91	—	—	17½	—	—	—	—	5.3p	1p.3d	62¼ 62⅜		—		7
8	—	—	61⅜ 61⅝	—	90¼ 90½	—	—	60½	—	17¼ 17⅜	—	65½	—	—	3p	par 3d	62⅜ 62⅛		—		8
9	—	—	61⅜ 61½	—	90¼ 90⅜	—	—	—	—	17⅛	—	—	—	—	4.5p	3d.2p	62⅛ 62[illegible]		—		9
11	—	—	61⅜ 61⅛	—	90¼	—	—	—	—	16⅝	—	—	—	—	4.3p	3d.3p	62 61⅞		—		11
12	—	—	61¼ 61⅜	—	90¼	—	—	—	—	16⅞ 17⅛	—	—	—	—	1.2p	1.4d	62⅛		—		12
13	—	—	61½ 61¾	—	90¼ 90½	—	—	—	—	17½ 17⅞	—	—	—	—	1.2p	3d.par	62¼ 62½		—		13
14	—	—	61⅝ 61⅞	—	90⅝ 90⅜	—	—	—	—	17⅝ 17⅞	—	—	—	—	1.2p	3p.3d	62½ 62¼		—		14
15	—	—	61¾ 61⅞	—	90⅝ 90½	—	—	—	—	18⅛ 17⅞	—	—	—	—	par	4d.par	62½ 62⅜		—		15
16	—	—	61½ 61¾	—	90⅝ 90¼	—	—	60½	—	17⅞	—	—	—	—	par 1p	4d.par	—		—		16
18	255	—	61⅝ 61¾	—	90¼ 90⅜	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4d par	1.2p	62⅜ 62¼		—		18
19	—	—	61⅜ 61⅝	—	90¼ 90	—	—	—	—	17⅛	—	—	—	—	4d.3p	1.2p	62⅛ 61⅞		—		19
20	—	—	61⅜ 61⅛	—	90 89¾	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5d par	par 1p	61⅞ 61½		—		20
21	—	—	61⅛ 60⅜	—	89⅝ 88¾	—	—	—	—	15⅝	—	—	—	—	5.1d	par 1p	61⅝ 61		—		21
22	—	—	60⅛ 59¾	—	88⅜ 88⅞	—	—	—	—	14⅞ 15⅛	—	—	—	—	5.1d	par 1p	60⅝ 60⅞		—		22
23	—	—	60⅝ 60½	—	89⅛	—	—	—	—	15½	—	—	—	—	5.1d	par	60⅞ 61⅛		—		23

E. Eyton, *Stock Broker, 2, Cornhill, and 18, Coventry Street.*